1-7-41 - To:- 30-9-41 ⟶ cont

from Reel 15-7-B

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

MOLODKI class S/M 174 reports that she penetrated into Petsamo harbour today and torpedoed two merchant ships which were discharging alongside.

Casualties.

KITTIWAKE (Corvette) was damaged in collision with SAPPHIRE tonight.
S.S. REYNOLDS was damaged by striking a submerged object, probably a wreck; and anchored in the Humber Examination Anchorage.
An explosion of ammunition, causing casualties, occurred on board S.S. FRANCONIA at Liverpool this forenoon.

British Air Operations.

Fog caused air operations last night and today to be curtailed.

Fighter Command aircraft damaged two A.A. ships and destroyed two minesweepers off Dunkirk today; others sank a small patrol vessel off Cherbourg.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy F.S.4 was bombed at 1935 today in 53° 55' N. 0° 20' E. S.S. BRITISH PRINCE was sunk this evening in approx. 53° 52' N. 0° 25' E.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft tonight was reported in the Thames Estuary. Mines were detonated today.

Mines were detonated today in the Milford Haven and Humber areas.

Mediterranean.

Mines were laid tonight by 5 Naval aircraft in the entrance to Palermo harbour, a Wellington providing a successful diversion by bombing the aerodrome.

Libya & Western Desert.

Wellingtons bombed Tripoli and laid mines in the harbour last night.
Today Blenheims blew up a 1000 ton ship 10 miles N.W. of Tripoli and probably damaged a 2000 to 3000 ton vessel.

6 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour last night. No damage was observed.

Current reports indicate that a certain amount of material for the Axis (lorries, spare parts &c.) is being transhipped from Marseilles via Tunisian ports. Owing to the damage to Tripoli Germany is reported to be pressing for the use of Tunisian ports for the transit of troops and war material.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

EMPIRE SPRINGBUCK, missing after the attacks on S.C.42 about 11/9, has now been posted overdue. If her loss is confirmed this brings the total number of victims in this convoy to 16 ships of 68,253 tons.

There are indications that 2 enemy U-Boats are operating in the entrance to the White Sea.

Convoy H.G.73.

At 0316Z today HIGHLANDER reported that the convoy was being attacked again. Owing to fuel shortage HIGHLANDER had to leave the convoy this morning. She reports that air escorts are urgently required.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U.S. Co-operation.

U.S. Movements.

This is corrected Opnav 2323/24.
"Combatdiv" three in NEW MEXICO plus QUINCY and 8 destroyers plus 10 vessels of convoy constituting "Taskforce" 15 leave Iceland 1600 G.C.T/26. Destroyers are TRUXTON, HUGHES, OVERTON, MACLEISH, ANDERSON, SIMS, BAINBRIDGE, SIMPSON. Unless otherwise directed or information received indicates advisability of diversion this force will follow Great Circle route from 50 miles West of Skagi to Cape Race. Probable speed 12.
"Comcrudiv" 7 in WICHITA, MISSISSIPPI, WASP, VULCAN and four destroyers left Argentia 2300Z/23 will proceed Reykjavik via Great Circle course from twenty miles East of Cape Race using best speed in submarine waters. Route will be changed as directed or as situation demands keeping Opnav informed of important changes. Estimated speed 15 knots.
(Opnav 0535/26, 2340Z/26, D.O.D.(H) 1456A/26, 2313A/26 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A., R.A.5)

Russian Co-operation.

Movements.

2 URASKI Class Destroyers escorting one transport sailing Murmansk for Archangel 1500C/26 S. of A. 10 knots.
(2) 3 transports with escort expected entrance White Sea from northward 26/9 Admiralty pass to ELECTRA and LONDON. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1616C/26.)

Murmansk.

In view of probable necessity to use Port of Murmansk in place of Archangel during the winter months following details of Murmansk for merchant vessels.
Bunkers and oil facilities.
(iv) In 13 weeks of war 18 air raids on Murmansk but only three of any intensity. Little damage total casualties two wounded.
(v) Berthing of escort could be arranged Vaenga or Polyarno. No air attack latter since July.
(vi) Consider Murmansk under present circumstances suitable to deal with convoy of up to 12 ships.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk 1903C/26.)

S/M Operations.

Soviet Union K One returned to Polyarno from patrolling Vestfiord 25/9, did not patrol north of Bodo. All traffic kept very close in shore and no attacks carried out.
(?Liner) probably BERLIN sighted Northbound 2/9 vicinity 067° N. 013° 30' E. Northbound convoy vicinity of 067° N. 013° 45' E. 11/9. No (?shipping) sighted in Bodo 10/9.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2122C/26.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols. "Stand" now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1016/26.)

ARGUS. Your 1901A/25 Para.(111) 9 of the 14 pilots are trained in deck landing. (ARGUS 2211/26 to Adty.)

Enemy Air Operations.

Yarmouth bombed. Great Yarmouth bombed at 2005A/25. 2 U.X.Bs fell just outside Naval Area. No naval damage or casualties. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0853A/26.)

PALOMARES Unknown ship off Smalls, 25/9. Distress message received 1956/25 from unknown station reporting being attacked off Smalls. At 2022 enemy seaplane was heavily engaged by PALOMARES escorting B.B.80 near Smalls. This aircraft was suddenly lost on R.D.F by PALOMARES and by KETECHL about 5 miles 190 from Smalls, at 2026, and may possibly have crashed. Nothing found by searching trawler or by convoy. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1215/26.)

Convoy F.S.4 BRITISH PRINCE sunk. Enemy Bombing Convoy evidence. My position 53° 55' N. 0° 20' E. (VIVIEN 1935/26) BRITISH PRINCE sunk by bombing in position 53° 52' N. 0° 25' E. No casualties. KITTIWAKE intends landing survivors in Hospital Ship. (WINDSOR 2003A/26, 2145A/26.)

Mining.

N.L.12. My 2226A/25. Intend to carry out operation N.L.12 tonight Friday. (V.A. Dover 1006A/26.)

Thames Estuary and Aldeburgh. At 1945/25. Patrol vessel reported very loud explosion S.E. of Sunk Buoy, low flying aircraft in vicinity. Plot of hostile A/C from 1925 to 2012 read as follows. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1114A/26.)

S.N.16 A. Intend to carry out operation S.N.16 A as follows provided fighter escort is available.
(a) Surface minefield.
(d) WELSHMAN and MANXMAN.
(e) Fighter escort as arranged by C. in C. Rosyth from first light until 1200/28.
(f) From 057° 12' 4" N. 000° 57' W. to 057° 06' 30" N. 001° 05' 30" W.

/(g)

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

S.N.16 A. contd.
(g) 1930/27.
(i) 0910/28.
(R.A.(M) 1147A/26.)

Milford Haven.
Confirmation of Mine Laying by G.A.F.
A. Nil.
B. Off St. Anns Head Milford Haven. One night of 22nd/23rd Sept.
(D.M.S 1200/26 to Air Min., H.Q.F.C.)

Humber area.
Following Mines were detonated 26/9. One magnetic off Sheringham buoy and one off Flamborough Head. Probably acoustic.
(F.O. Humber 1905A/26.)

Milford Haven.
One red mine detonated off St. Anns Head Light.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1955/26.)

Thames Estuary.
Two Mines have been laid by Parachute 1 mile East, North East Nore at 2035. Position is marked by green drum. (S.S. KENTWOOD 2235/26.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Demonstration cruise in Baltic.
(1) My 1151/24 this squadron consisting of TIRPITZ, SCHEER, two light cruisers, 4 large destroyers and 6 T.Bs was located in vicinity of Aaland Island evening of 24/9 when it is believed to have turned southwards.
(2) Well informed naval opinion here has disclosed unwittingly its belief that purpose of this demonstration by German navy is directed more at enhancing morale than as a strategic attempt to prevent flight of Russian fleet.
B.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1041/26, Adty. 1638A/26 to C. in C. H.F., S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1655A/26 to Miles.)
My 1041/26 TIRPITZ squadron less 3 or 4 torpedo craft passed southward of 0600 a.m./26.
Apparently had carried out exercises.
(2) Light cruisers now identified as KOLN and NURNBERG.
(3) During both northward and southward passages squadron passed to westward of Gotland.
(4) No air escort has been reported nor has there been any trace of GRAF ZEPPELIN.
A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1517/26, D.D.I.C. 2251A/26 to Miles, D.D.I.C. 2232A/26 to C. in C. H.F., S.B.N.O. Murmansk, latter two graded B.2 and omitting (4)).

/Unknown

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence - contd.

Unknown merchant ship. One M.V. length 200 feet reported by A/C in 046° 53' N. 003° 42' W. course 170 speed 10 knots at 1022. 3 Beauforts are being sent to attack. (F.O.(S) 1219A/26 to SEAWOLF.)

Unidentified Trawler. Patrol vessel reports:- Unidentified trawler seen one mile off Gregory Sound, Kilronnan, ends. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1455A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

TIRPITZ. It is reported (Graded B.1) that TIRPITZ is armed with torpedoes. Number carried, size of torpedo and whether discharged above water or submerged not known.
2. BISMARCK was not fitted for torpedoes.
(D.N.I. 1514A/26 A.Mge.)

Technical.

Training of S/M Officers. A.L.M.N. 12251/41 of the 19th Sept. It is considered of the highest importance that a Warship with speed of 20 knots if available, and certainly not less than 15 knots, should be available as target vessel for the training of submarine Commanding Officers.
(2) The Submarine experience of these Officers is -becoming progressively less and it is considered essential that they be given every opportunity of practice on realistic targets.
(F.O.S. 2056A/26 to Adty.)

Casualties and Defects.

AVRA sunk. MARVIA damaged on 25/9. S.S. AVRA in E.C.77 and MARVIA in collision in fog East of Duncansby Head 2128/25. MARVIA bow badly buckled entered Aberdeen. AVRA sunk. Total crew 34 picked up. H.M.T. QUENTIN ROOSEVELT escort to MARVIA has 3 survivors who report remainder picked up by MARVIA. QUENTIN ROOSEVELT entered Aberdeen. (Scapa W/T 0010/26, A.C.O.S. 1058A/26, QUENTIN ROOSEVELT 1420/26, C. in C. Rosyth 1506/26, F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1730/26, N.C.S.O. Aberdeen 2040/26.)

S.S. FRANCONIA. Explosion of 2" U.P. ammunition with No.720 Fuze has occurred on board FRANCONIA six casualties. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1234A/26, 1711/26) See Lion Copy.

/NESTOR

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

NESTOR. A.M.1824A/17 and F.O.C.N.A's 1714A/25.
NESTOR left Gibraltar 26/LX on passage to U.K. to effect repairs to turbine feet at Devonport. Request you will route her to Plymouth. (D.O.D.(F) 1315/26 to C.in C. W.A.)

S O S. Intercept at 1437 G.M.T. 500 kc/s Bearing 083° unknown station sounding automatic S O S signal strength 4. (Lyness W/T 1541/26.)

KITTIWAKE. Have been in collision with SAPPHIRE. Have received damage and am making water in number 1 (one) and 2 boiler rooms which are under control by fire and bilge pumps. Proceeding Humber at 6 knots with crew BRITISH PRINCE, sunk by bombing. Request pilot and instructions. (KITTIWAKE 2213A/26)
Immingham departure SABINE at 2350 to assist KITTIWAKE. Grimsby departure tug YORKSHIREMAN at 2345 to assist S.S. REYNOLDS. (F.O. Humber, 2356A/26.)

Shipping and Convoys.

S.L.86. Arrived safely under Cdre. Boddam-Whetham R.N.R. 14 ships (12 British, 2 Allied) Cargoes. (D.S. 752, 26/9.)

3104
836. Ship 3104 ready Mersey 28th.
Ship 836 ready Glasgow 30th.
Are required at Swansea and Newport respectively to load very special cargo. Loading operation requires about 10 days, after which essential must catch O.S.9. Request the necessary arrangements may be made. (D.T.D. 1724A/26.)

P.W. 42 Reference N.C.S.O. Dartmouth's 1033/26 Par.1 escort.
Convoy P.W.42 will contain 2 and possibly 3 important ships. Request A/A escort. No destroyers will be available from Portsmouth. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1817A/26 to C. in C. Plymouth

PACIFIC PIONEER. Carrying important stores for H.M. ships refitting in America is at present loading at Manchester and will sail for various destination in the U.S.A. on 2/10. She should be given "Safest Place" in the appropriate O.N. convoy. (D.O.D.(H) 2009A/26 to N.C.S.O. and F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

S.C.46 Your 1656Z/26 diversion concur. Forces concerned informed. (Opnav 2200Z/26 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

NESTOR.	My 1714A/25. Departure NESTOR. (F.O.C.N.A., 0834A/26 to Admty C. in C. W.A.)
GORLESTON.	Arrived Ponta Delgada 0630 G.M.T./26. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 0846C/26 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar).
French Shipping.	Passing 25/9. French Eastward ST. MAKIME, CEVENNES, UAMAKO, PESCAGEL, CAPITAINE LE DIABET, all full. (F.O.C.N.A., 0919/26 to Admty for M.E.W.) Gibraltar passings on 24/9 and 25/9 (D.O.R., 26/9).
AURICULA, VIOLET.	Expected Ponta Delgada about 4/10 and will require approx. 170 tons Oil Fuel and 30 tons water respectively. (C. in C. W.A., 1156A/26 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).
LINDA.	Negotiations have been concluded for Danish LINDA now at Las Palmas to sail for New York in our interests. She should not be interfered with. F.O.C.N.A., is requested to signal route instructions to British Consul, Las Palmas. (D.T.D., 1212A/26 to Consul, Las Palmas, F.O.C.N.A.)
MARIA BELMATTI, ISONZO.	Las Palmas reports auxiliary schooner MARIA BELMATTI expected shortly to load aviation or gas oil fuel ex ISONZO (It.) which is at Villa Cisneros, Rio De Oro. Destination believed to be Cape Verde Islands. (F.O.C.N.A., 1243A/26 to MARON).
Italian U-boats.	Passing through Mediterranean. (F.O.C.N.A., 1532A/26) See U-boat Campaign.
H.G.74, 26 M/L Flotilla.	Your 1446/25. Owing to necessity for maximum escort of H.G. Convoys it is necessary for corvettes to return with H.G.74, consequent delay to 26th M.L. Flotilla being accepted. 2. Request you will arrange to sail 26th M.L. Flotilla to Freetown with escort as opportunity offers, reporting your intentions. Suggested Flotilla might be sailed with Section (B) of ships mentioned in A.M.1433/10 or with the destroyer retained in accordance with A.M.1330/16. (V.C.N.S., 1656A/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Force "Halberd"..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Force "Halberd".

202 Squadron 1 Catalina escort force "Halberd" to East. Dawn to dusk, area covered 38.15 N., 01.30 E., to 38.15 N., 05.10 E.
(200 Group, 1730/26).

Italian Fleet dispositions.

(1) Messina, one 8 inch 2 6 inch cruisers, 2 destroyers, one T.B.3 submarines (11) Palermo, increase of 2 destroyers since 22/9. (111) Marsala empty (1V)Naples, 2 CAVOUR one "H" class, 6 destroyers, 2 T.B.(V) At 1113, in 040° 44' N., 014° 10' E., 2 cruisers, course 210° 10 knots. (V1) Castellamare, one cruiser surrounded by nets (V11) Taranto, one Italian Battleship LITTORIO, 2 CAVOUR, one damaged CAVOUR in dock, one cruiser TRENTO class, 3 6 inch cruisers, 12 large 2 small destroyers, 12 submarines. (V111) Podichino Aerodrome, 60 twin engine aircraft.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2204A/26 to S.O. Force H) See 1207A/27.

THORN.

Your 1410A/25 (re position and S. of A. after dark/26, 043° 33' N., 010° 30' W., 180° 10 kts.
(THORN, 2329A/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

ALCANTARA.

C. in C. S.A. 1627/25. Cancel my 1303Z/25. Report intended date leaving K.33.
(R.A.S.A.D., 0013Z/26 to ALCANTARA).
If possible to do so without prejudicing compliance with C. in C. S.A. 1627N/25 Para (C) R/V with BIRMINGHAM in 032° S., 045° W., at 1100Z Sunday 28/9. (R.A.S.A.D., 0130Z/26 to ALCANTARA).
Your 0130/26. ALCANTARA can R/V with BIRMINGHAM as required and movements of BULOLO will be adjusted accordingly. Date of arrival of ALCANTARA at Tristan da Cunha to be reported.
(C. in C. S.A., 1055N/26 to R.A.S.A.D.)

U/Bs Tarrafal Bay.

2315/25. Request I may be informed for what purpose it is suggested U-boats may be using Tarrafal Bay. (C. in C. S.A., 1051N/26 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.9.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

S.L.88 BURDOCK, VERVAIN.	Admty. 2351/25 and F.O.C.N.A., 0028/26. BURDOCK is to fuel Ponta Delgada 6/10 and accompany S.L.88 to U.K. VERVAIN is to be detached to fuel (?Gibraltar) and F.O.C.N.A. is requested to sail her thence to U.K. (C . in C. S.A., 1217N/26 to ENCHANTRESS, VERVAIN, BURDOCK, ASTER, VANSITTART.)
Force F.	Arrivals St. Helena 26/9, 1200 EAGLE, DORSETSHIRE for fuelling. (General, St. Helena, 1220/26).
EAGLE, Force F.	A fire occurred in aircraft in hangar 20/9. Suggest if facilities exist that ship should proceed to Capetown for replacement and/or repairs to aircraft to be effected at Wynberg. Opportunity for docking ship at Durban might be taken. S.O. Force "F" concurs. (EAGLE, 1330Z/26 to C. in C. S.A.) EAGLE's 1330/26. Proceed with EAGLE to Capetown when fuelled subject to N.O.I.C. Simonstown reporting work can be taken in hand. N.O.I.C. Simonstown requested to report as early as possible and if ships can be taken at Capetown or Simonstown and whether dock likely to be available Durban. (C. in C. S.A., 1951N/26 to S.O. Force F). W.D. Note:- Orders to sail EAGLE were cancelled by C. in C. S.A., 0031N/27.
C.M.19 W.S.11.	Arrangements. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1518B/26 to D. of S.T.) See Lion Copy.
DUCHESS OF BEDFORD, SOBIESKI.	Sailed 25/9. Details on board. (S.S.T.O. Freetown, 1815N/26 to D. of S.T.)
VANJA SANDAR.	Admty 2048/16. Anticipate VANJA and SANDAR escorted by SENNEN and TOTLAND will sail from Freetown 28 or 29/9. Propose to route East of Canaries, do you concur? Will you give route from 21° N? (C. in C. S.A., 2011N/26 to F.O.C.N.A).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

OTTO LEONHARDT. (German).	Arrived at Savona 23/9 with 6,000 tons Spanish iron ore. (D.S.752, 26/9).
OSIRIS.	Your 0931B/24 and 1927B/24 received and understood. No flag signal shown 25/9. E.T.A. Alexandria Sanctuary 0600B/30. (OSIRIS, 0557B/26 to Capt.S.1).
Enemy Units.	4 Merchant ships with 3 escorts leave Athens 1500B/26 for Candia passing between Melos and Ansnes. (Capt. S.1. 0931B/26 to TETRARCH, Greek S/M TRITON).
CANADA, COLOMBIE.	Vichy hospital ship CANADA passes 037° 03' 016° 03' at 0400B/29 Messina at 1200B/29 through 038° 20' 010° 00' 2000B/30 thence Bizerta. Troop ship COLOMBIE followed 24 hours but proceeded from Messina to 041° 35' 010° 00'. If encountered ships are not to be molested. (Capt. S.10 1005B/26 to 10 S/M Flot).
Tunisian Ports.	French Officer returned from Vichy told American Military Attache that "Owing to damage to Tripoli Germany is pressing for use of Tunisian ports for transit of troops and war material. Passage of troops being strongly resisted but concession may be made for materials". (Graded B.2) (Tangier, 1032/26 to Admty). N.I.D. Comment. Current reports from secret sources indicate that a certain amount of material for the Axis (lorries spare parts, etc) is already being transhipped from Marseilles via Tunisian ports. (Graded B.3.)
Benghazi bombed.	Night 24/25. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour obtaining 6 hits on barges or dredgers. Fire also started at base of central Mole. Day 25/9. 5 Marylands bombed enemy dump and camp near Gambut. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1218/26).
Syrian Ports.	Most satisfactory arrangements for administration of ports just concluded. Port commission consisting of M. Vaselet Jaquet and my-self (i) to control appointment of all ports personnel (ii) organise port facilities, leaving movements and berthing of ships to be under Naval Authorities. Movements control also concerned and are co-operating. (N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1233C/26 to C. in C. Med).

/U/B.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

U/B attacked. Attacking submarine echo, in contact, 33.29 N., 34.45 E. (SOUTHERN SEA, 1245/26 to N.O.I.C. Haifa).
SOUTHERN SEA, reports attacking submarine echo in 033° 29' N., 034° 45' E., at 1245. DELPHINIUM despatched, ERICA follows (?shortly).
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1653C/26 to C. in C. Med).

Turkey. Chiefs of Staff No. 172. (1st S.L., 1433A/26 to C. in C. Med) See Lion Copy.

Your 0447B/26th.(?0557 intended). Proceed through 034° 43' 022° 57' and 034° 37' 025° 32' thence direct to Alexandria. (Capt. S.1., 1505B/26 to OSIRIS).

Malta Raid. Night 25/26.
2 'Alerts' 21.58 - 23.22 and 22.35 - 22.53 hours.
Bomber (?bombs) dropped in sea. Two fighters up. No illuminations or interceptions.

M/Vs. attacked. P.M./25/9. 1 Blenheim evening sweep attacked 4 M/Vs unescorted, at 1805 hours 32 miles North of Cotrone. 3 hits observed 1 M/V 3,000 tons, fire and sparks after attack up to 60 ft. Blenheim remained 1 hour last saw ship almost sunk.

Tripoli attacked and mined. Night 25/26. 9 Wellingtons attacked M.T. Park and Barracks. Tripoli.
(H.Q. Malta, 1600/26) (Continued 1601).
Tripoli. 2 A/C mine-laying. Attack lasted 18.50 - 19.48 hrs, 28000 lbs bombs 4 mines dropped in harbour. Considerable material damage.
On return to base formation saw 1 M/V heavily laden 1000 tons and 3 M/Vs 2-3000 tons 10 miles N.W. Tripoli course 270° 5 kts. 2 hits M/V 1000 tons. Exploded and sank in flames. Near miss 1 M/V 2-3000 tons. Probably damaged. All ships machine-gunned. All aircraft returned.
(H.Q. Malta, 1601/26).

Convoys, Syria. Your 1410B/16. (N.T. in W.R.) To make most economic use of limited number of escorts and still leave small force available for offensive anti-submarine operations propose Convoy principle be adopted if consequent delay in sailing of some Merchant ships can be accepted. Request guidance as to limit of delay. Sufficient warning of intended sailings must be given in order to co-ordinate escort programme. (N.O.I.C. Syria, 1731C/26 to C. in C. Med).

Turkey. Addition to his 1824B/25. (N.A. Angora, 1746B/26 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

/Black Sea.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.9.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Black Sea. Situation. (1) Comparative inactivity except for Submarines and old units convoying probably due to recent sinking of gunboat and destroyer by dive bombing. Witnessed attack on enemy convoy off Constantza 21/9, submarine slightly damaged depth charge. Hope submarine patrols in this fruitful area will be increased.
Naval A/C mainly employed in assisting Army Odessa Tendra Perikop Edytopol areas and bombing enemy aerodromes. (L.O. Black Sea, 18010/26 to Admty).

PROTEUS, TRIUMPH. Request you will sail PROTEUS p.m./28 for area 037° 08' 020° 05' 340 80 70. PROTEUS will be recalled to arrive Alexandria a.m./9 leaving her patrol area p.m./4. TRIUMPH will be routed clear to westward. (Capt. S.1., 1845B/26 to Capt. S.10).

French Ships. Dep. 25th FRONSAC, Sete. Arr. 26th COETLOGON. (Barcelona, 1926/26 to D. of S.T.)

Turkey. Amending his 1824B/25. (N.A. Angora, 1934B/26) See Lion Copy.

U/Bs. U-boats reported off African coast between 017° and 025°. (Capt. S.1., 2035B/26 to PERSEUS, THRASHER).

Enemy A/C, Black Sea. Large increase of enemy aircraft in this area (details) (L.O. Black Sea, 2153C/26 to Admty).

Palermo minelaying. Swordfish laying magnetic mines entrance Palermo tonight. (Capt. S.10 2315B/26 to URGE).

Pantellaria. Air R/C Pantellaria area has been arranged at 1000/27. (V.A. Malta, 2320B/26 to S.O. Force H).

SULLBERG, ATLAS, (German). Arrival 25th from Sagunto with iron ore. Departure 24th ATLAS for Genoa via Sagunto to complete load pyrites. (Valencia, Untimed /26, to M. of W.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CARTHAGE. ISLAMI.	CARTHAGE escorting ISLAMI arrived here. (N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 0400Z/26 to Admty. etc.)
Merchant Navy.	Re welfare. Recommend that immediate steps be taken to improve shore facilities on all stations. (S.N.O.R.S. from Adm. Dreyer, 1101Z/26 to Admty. for 1 S.L.)
EXETER. CERES.	Sailed EXETER 1040Z/26. Arrived CERES. (N.O.I.C. Aden 1200Z/26).
AVON VALE. ERIDGE.	Proceed to Port Sudan where you will come under orders of S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area. (S.N.O. R.S., 1600Z/26 to AVON VALE, ERIDGE).
REWAK (intercepted)	Your 0714/21. Request report. (a) whether launch was in French naval service. (b) position of interception. Statement that launch is being retained in prize is not understood, but it should be detained pending further instructions. (Head of M. 2114A/26 to C. in C. E.I.) Reply 0602/29.

China.

Liaison Officer, Free French.	Growing importance of Free French Movement in Far East necessitates appointment of Senior British Liaison Officer at Singapore. Suggest Col. V.R. Burkhardt, late Military Attache China. Sir A. Clerk Kerr agrees. (C. in C. China, 0541Z/26 to Admty.)
Port W.	My 0352/13. Arrangements before arrival of base ship. (C. in C. China, 0543Z/26 to Admty. etc.) See Lion Copy.

/SPRINGDALE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China-Contd.

SPRINGDALE. DAUNTLESS.	Singapore arrival 26/9 SPRINGDALE. Departure DAUNTLESS on escort duty. (S.O.I. Singapore 10012/26).
VOLGA.	My 1214/23. Agents state Russian S.S. VOLGA has arrived in Vladivostock. (Comdre, Hong Kong, 1132I/26 to Admty.)
LE CONTE DE LISLE. (French).	Departure Haiphong. (Shanghai, 2352Z/26 to -M. of W.T.).

America and West Indies.

S/M Report.	Your 2237A/24. Report was passed to B.A.D. but not to Opnav. In future such information, if sufficiently reliable will be passed direct to Opnav, and indication given in signal to Admiralty. (C. in C. A.W.I., 10120/26 to Admty.)
PRINCE HENRY. CAPETOWN CASTLE.	Leave Bermuda with CAPETOWN CASTLE on 27/9 and act as Ocean Escort to Halifax proceeding by Most direct route at best possible speed consistent with arriving during daylight on 29/9. (? C.O.A.C. Halifax) is requested to sail PRINCE HENRY for Bermuda on 2/10. (C. in C. A.W.I., 10320/26 to PRINCE HENRY).
Tankers, D/G.	In view of present arrangements by which convoys go only from Halifax and Sydney C.B. is delay to Tankers (which are routed from Aruba to Halifax) due their diversion to Curacao to pass over D/G range justified, or should these Tankers wait until Halifax for ranging? (S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1101QR/26 to Admty.)

/Suspected.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Suspected Raider. B.3. German raider supply vessel reported in vicinity of Guyanecas Archipelago mouth of Messier Channel. Vessel stated approx. 2500 tons, may have (?belonged) to Danish East Asiatic Line, painted black with green blue and white stripes. Said to be equipped with motor launch A/C and captive balloon. Same source reports purchase of sheep from Aysen for despatch to Guayaneco for possible supply to this vessel. Endeavouring to obtain confirmation. (N. A., Santiago de Chile, 1150/26 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Convoys, U/B Area. Following sent to Opnav. Ref. your 0535/26 to Admty. (N.T. in W.D). the submarine area bounded approx. by Cape Farewell 53° 30' N. 33° 30' W. and 56° 00' N. 29° 00' W. will be passed through by Task Force 15 and Cruiser Division 7 with the vessels in company. If a diversion to S.E. of this area is made by Opnav I request that on account of east and west-bound convoys in that sector I be promptly informed. 1411/26. (Spenavo, 1455/26 to Admty.)

DIOMEDE. Departure Balboa noon 2+5/26 DIOMEDE. (N.C.S.O. Panama, 1621/26 to Admty.)

ISEO. Intercepted letter from Sicily states Italian Ship ISEO travels to and fro between Greece and Brindisi every 10 or 15 days.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 1629Q/26 to Adty. C. in C. Med.)

LIVERPOOL. Your 2353A/25. Position is satisfactory. Ship will carry about 78 seamen and marines short of numbers required to man all armament available. (B.A.R.M. 1756R/26 to Admty.)

WORCESTERSHIRE. Intend sailing WORCESTERSHIRE with personnel stores and fresh water for Bermuda 0200/29 arriving 1800Q on 1/10 and subsequently carrying out gunnery practices. (R.A.3, 1803P/26 to C. in C. A.W.I).

DESPATCH. Colon departure 2030 G.M.T. today. (N.C.S.O. Colon, 1903/26 to Admty.).

CULEBRA ashore. S.C. 46. W/T report stated CULEBRA ashore at Point Amour. (N.C.S.O. Sydney 1954Z/26 to Admty.)

/EMPIRE.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

EMPIRE KUDU ashore.

Following from Master (Beacham) EMPIRE KUDU (S.C.46) aground Point Amour ship (? abandoned by her crew) 5 p.m. E.S.T. 2nd Engineer lost. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 2346Z/26 to C.O.A.C. Halifax) (D.O.R. 28/9).

GLADIOLUS. MIMOSA.

Corvettes escorting O.N. 16 and O.N. 17 with exception of GLADIOLUS and MIMOSA detach forthwith and proceed to St. Johns N.F. at best prudent speed. GLADIOLUS, MIMOSA ccmply with C. in C. W.A. 1115A/26. (C.C.N.F. 2151Z/26).

S.C.46.

Amending route, action "Comtask" Unit 4.1.12. (Washington 2211/26 to Admty.)

Australia.

Rumours.

Your 1532A/23. (Dissemination of rumours to deceive enemy). To avoid possible misapprehension on this station as to veracity of rumours A.C.N.B. Melbourne would be glad if they also could be kept advised of rumours disseminated. (A.C.N.B. 0906Z/26 to Admty.)

New Zealand.

Suspicious Ship.

My 1341A/24. (re - suspicious ship reported by DENBIGHSHIRE) Have you any further information? (D.O.D. (F) 1215A/26 to N.Z.N.B) Reply: 1155/27.

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

EMPIRE SPRINGBUCK. (S.C.42). — British, 5591 tons, which left Sydney N.S. on 30/8 for Leith, where she was due on 14/9, and was missing from Convoy S.C.42 after the attacks by U/B's, has now been posted overdue. (D.S. 752, 26/9).

H.G.73.
AVOCETA.
CORTES.
LAPWING.
PETREL.
VARANGBURG.

Convoy is being attacked. HIGHLANDER will now have insufficient fuel to remain with convoy after 0800/26. Further report will be sent. (HIGHLANDER, 0316Z/26 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)
At 2233/25 in 047° 40' N. 024° 07' W. H.G. 73 again attacked windward by 2 U-boats. Ships missing at dawn AVOCETA, CORTES, LAPWING, PETREL, VARANGBURG, one of which probably float. Number of survivors unknown but Commodore and 20 from AVOCETA in PERIWINKLE. PERIWINKLE, JASMINE and CERVANTES looking for survivors.
2 attacks developed at 2 hour interval. In first attack ships hit were 51 and 52. In second attack 11, 12 and 13. LARKSPUR carried out promising attack. Owing to fuel shortage have had leave convoy and am proceeding Londonderry at 16 knots course 51°. Air escorts for convoy urgently required. Weather report.
(HIGHLANDER 0930Z/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
(D.S. 753, 27/9).
Sailed WOLVERINE in accordance with my 2321/25 (WOLVERINE to meet H.G.73) code word "Junction".
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1215A/26 to Admty. etc.)
Your 0930Z/26. Report last known position of torpedoed ship still afloat and whether considered salveable. (C. in C. W.A., 1717A/26 to HIGHLANDER).
Your 1717A/26. Latest information received shows ship was last seen by LARKSPUR at about 0100/26 apparently undamaged. Position 047° 52' N -023° 40' W. (HIGHLANDER, 1950Z/26 to C. in C.W.A.)
On arrival of HIGHLANDER request following may be investigated. (A) Position of escorts prior to latest U/B attack on H.G. 73. (B) Reason for HIGHLANDER's apparent low endurance on this occasion. (C. in C. W.A. 1953A/26 to Capt. D. Londonderry).

Submarines Reported.

2322C/25. — By D/F at 2322C/25 U-boat in 068° 45' N. 040° 32' E. Admty. pass to LONDON, ELECTRA. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 0043C/26 to Admty.)

2342. — Bearings obtained at 2342Z/25 probably U/Boat. 37 Groups, 4-letter code, T.O.O. 0114/26.
(D.D.I.C. 0145A/26 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.)

/2336Z.....

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported-Contd.

2336Z/25. D/F bearing at 2336Z/25 suggests U-boat within 150 miles of (?005°) S. 028° W. reliability 75%. (C. in C. S.A. 1305N/26 to S.A. Stn.)

1235N/25. My 1235N/25. Position very approximate and more likely to be within 150 miles 001° 30' S. 031° W. (C. in C. S.A. 1321N/26 to S.A. Stn.)

1226Z) 1312Z) D/F bearings intercepted between 1226Z/26 and 1312Z/26, indicate that at least three U/boats are in the vicinity of Convoy H.G. 73. (D.D.I.C. 1458A/26 to FOWEY, BEGONIA, HIGHLANDER).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1459A/26).

Italian S/M's passing Gibraltar. Italian submarine passed through Straits on night 24/9 from Atlantic into Mediterranean. D/F fix placed him off Spanish Coast possibly in vicinity Cape De Gata at 1215Z/25 when he (?made) sighting report. One other left Bordeaux 13/9 passed through Straits about 20/9 and proceeded straight to Aegean. One other passed through into Mediterranean about 12/9 or 13/9. 5 others passed through into Mediter--ranean about end of August. No evidence of any traffic from east to west. (F.O.C.N.A., 1532A/26 to C.O.I.S. Alexandria amended 1554A/27).

White Sea. There are indications that 2 enemy U-boats are operating in entrance to White Sea. Admiralty pass to LONDON, ELECTRA. (B.S.N.O. Murmansk, 1615C/26 to Admty.)

By DIALA 23/9. Your 0251Q/24 Master of DIALA reports at 0700 local time 23/9 in 010° 20' N. 054° 50' W. his Chief Officer sighted whole of conning tower about 2½ miles two points abaft starboard beam. Naval Gunnery Rating also saw this but S/M had disappeared before Master came on bridge. He broadcast twice, first time 0718 and 0900, latter being acknowledged by Georgetown. As far as he knows, no other ship sighted this submarine. (S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1635Q/R/26 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/17320.....

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported-Contd.

17320/. At 17320/26 U-boat in 068° 55' 038° 47' by D/F Admiralty pass to LONDON, ELECTRA. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 19010/26 to Admty.)

2035B. Off Africa Coast. (See Mediterranean).

Submarines Attacked.

By SOUTHERN SEA. At 1245/26, 33.29 N., 34.45 E. (See Mediterranean 1245/26, 16530/26).

By LARKSPUR. Night 25-26/9, about 47.40 N., 24.07 W. (See HIGHLANDER, 0930/26, Ships attacked.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

East Coast convoys were delayed by fog today.

LONDON, with members of the British Mission on board, arrived at Archangel at 1605A today.

M.T.B.31 while operating off the Dutch coast at 2200A last night sighted a Convoy of 18 vessels off Haarlem steering S.W. at 6 knots and escorted by one small Destroyer.

S.B.N.O. Murmansk has been requested to visit Archangel at his earliest convenience and to report upon the facilities available there for berthing and repairing Merchant Ships.

H.D.M.L. 1022 was slightly damaged and her C.O. was wounded when SLEIPNER opened fire on her tonight owing to a misunderstanding.

British Air Activity.

Offensive operations were greatly curtailed by fog last night, but six A/C bombed the town and docks at Emden, when Genoa, Calais, Dunkirk and Ostend were also attacked.
The weather caused operational flying to be severely curtailed today.

Enemy Air Activity.

An enemy A/C attacked Westmanhavn and Sorvaag in the Faroe Islands at 1330A and 1340A today, causing slight damage to civil property at Sorvaag and sinking the Faroes fishing vessel FRAM.

/MENDIP

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity - contd.

MENDIP reports that four separate low level beam attacks on F.S.5 were frustrated at about 2140 near 62 G Buoy by blind barrage. Flashless cordite was invaluable while it lasted.

Convoy P.W.41 was attacked by A/C three times between 1352 and 1450 today off Lands End, without result. The attacking A/C was hit and driven off by ATHERSTONE and when last seen was losing height, with engine on fire.

Mining.

Operation P.W.20 — M.Ls 100 and 106, with M.G.Bs 64, 58, 63 and 65 left Harwich at 2002A to lay mines off the French coast tonight.

S.N.16 A. — WELSHMAN and MANXMAN left Port Z.A. unescorted at 1945 to carry out the minelaying operation S.N.16 A off Aberdeen tomorrow.

Two Beauforts laid mines off Brest last night.

Thames Estuary. — There was considerable minelaying activity by A/C in the Thames Estuary last night from 2020 to 2210, when 10 or more Mines were seen to fall and 12 explosions probably due to Mines were heard. The Nore Light Vessel's light was burning during this time and 2 ships in a convoy were also showing lights. One or more A/C flashing the correct recognition letter were seen circling at a low height.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft is also suspected last night off the South West coast.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

EAGLE is to return to U.K.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd".

At 1300 today S.O. Force H. in NELSON, with PRINCE OF WALES, RODNEY, ARK ROYAL, EURYALUS, KENYA, HERMIONE, EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD and 18 destroyers escorting a convoy of 9 merchant ships carrying personnel and stores to Malta was about 75 miles South of Sardinia. Between 1300 and 1415 27 enemy torpedo bombers escorted by fighters attacked our force in 3 waves. At 1330 NELSON was hit and her speed was soon reduced to 14 or 15 knots.

At least 6 torpedo aircraft and one fighter were shot down by gunfire and 4 torpedo aircraft and one fighter by Fulmars, in addition to others damaged.

Further enemy air formations which approached the fleet during the afternoon were driven off by our fighters.

At 1404 R.A.F. reported 2 enemy battleships and 8 destroyers steering a southerly course 75 miles to the E.N.E ward of the convoy. By 1425 the total enemy forces sighted were 2 battleships, 4 cruisers and 16 destroyers. PRINCE OF WALES, RODNEY, EDINBURGH. SHEFFIELD and 6 destroyers were detached under V.A.2 to close the enemy, and ARK ROYAL flew off two shadowers. The enemy, however, soon turned to the northward and ran for Naples. 12 Swordfish left at 1535 to attack. At 1700, as V.A.2 could not reach the enemy before dark he was recalled. The striking force was recalled an hour later and landed in the darkness having failed to find the enemy. TRUSTY and UPHOLDER were sent to the Southern Approach to Naples, to intercept the enemy.

/The

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" contd.

The force reached the entrance to Skerki Channel at 1855, and the battleships, ARK ROYAL and 9 destroyers withdrew to the westward.

At 2110 it was reported that S.S. IMPERIAL STAR was torpedoed in 37° 31 N. 10° 46' E. The damage caused the ship to be immobilised and she was scuttled.

The 1st B.S., 7th C.S. and destroyers which left Alexandria yesterday morning returned to Alexandria this morning after carrying out a diversion for the Operation. Apparently they were not sighted.

TRIUMPH.

TRIUMPH reports that whilst on patrol in the Adriatic she carried out a special operation, and left one tanker damaged in harbour C. on 18/9 and another damaged and on fire off Ortona on 24/9. On 23/9 she sank a ship off Sibenik.

Air Operations.

5 Naval aircraft from Malta laid mines last night in the approach to Palermo; a Wellington bombed the aerodrome as a diversion.
2 Beaufighters attacked Marsala seaplane base at 0630 today, and damaged several seaplanes. Borizzo aerodrome was also attacked, and several aircraft were seriously damaged. Elmas seaplane base was also attacked and a large number of seaplanes are reported to have been damaged. S.O.Force H reports that these attacks undoubtedly secured the subsequent immunity of the "Halberd" convoy on 28/9 and return of escort on

Libya and Western Desert.

6 Wellingtons attacked shipping and harbour (29/9 installations at Benghazi last night.

A ship which succeeded in reaching Bardia was attacked today by 9 Marylands escorted by Tomahawks.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Force W. has now dispersed.

America and West Indies.

Atlantic Convoy escorts.	5 R.N. destroyers and 7 corvettes are to remain with the N.E.F. leaving the latter with 13 destroyers and 45 corvettes for the escort of S.C. Convoys. The remaining R.N. escort ships are to be withdrawn to the U.K.

U-Boat Campaign.

Convoy H.G.73 ? 11 ships in all torpedoed.	FOWEY reported at 0327A today that auxiliary A.A. and fighter catapult ship SPRINGBANK was disabled by torpedo attack; the ship sank at 1915A. It is estimated that 4 other ships were torpedoed amongst them apparently S.S. CERVANTES and Norwegian SIREMALM.
I.C. WHITE, sunk.	It is reported that Panamanian (U.S.A.) Tanker I.C. WHITE bound from Curacao to Capetown was torpedoed today 450 miles East of Pernambuco. U.S.S. WEST NILUS picked up a boat with 17 or 18 survivors on 3/10; all but 4 members of the crew are reported to be U.S. nationals.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary

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Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Parachute Troops.

In connection with forthcoming Army Manoeuvres Parachute Troops descending in daylight between 29/9 and 3/10 inclusive within the following counties are not to be fired on unless they are proved to be hostile. Norfolk, Suffolk, Hunts., Beds., Herts., Oxon., Northants, Warwick and Cambridge, Berkshire, Wiltshire, Sussex, Hampshire.
(D. of L.D. 1106/A/27 and 1641A/27 to C's in C., F.O.I.C., N.O.I.C's.)

CONQUEROR.

Request you sail CONQUEROR for the Nore as soon as practicable.
2. C. in C. Nore is requested to operate her in such a manner that every opportunity is given to her to use her special armament against enemy aircraft.
(V.C.N.S. 1115A/27 to C. in C. Rosyth)

Your 1115/27. It is not practicable to release CONQUEROR until MONA'S ISLE is completed in approximately 10 days time.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1747/27 to Admty.)

Your 1115A/27. In view of F.O.I.C Tyne's 1747/27 it is possible to delay CONQUEROR sailing from Tyne until MONA'S ISLE has completed refit.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2355/27 to Admty.)

EREBUS

To be prepared for service in the Mediterranean forthwith.
The question of changing guns is being examined.
(1st S.L. 1658A/27)

Co-operation with Russia

Proposed removal of restriction.

Suggest the restriction laid down in Paragraph 3 F of Admty. 1859A/30/8 could now be permanently abolished. Reasons.
(Ad. Miles 0959C/27 to Admty.)

/Information....

HOME COMMANDS

Co-operation with Russia-Contd.

Information as to Russian S/M Patrols.

Request you will signal now any Soviet submarines patrol which is established or intended to the Westward of 15° E.
2. Since it is probable that our forces will be operating in these areas, often at short notice, it is important that Admiralty should be kept informed as early as possible of any such Soviet submarine activity.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1157A/27 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk)

British Mission. LONDON.

Archangel. LONDON arrived. (LONDON, 1605A/27)

Communication with Archangel

Your 1138C/23. One P.O. Tel. and 2 Tels. now en route, for Archangel W/T watch intended on arrival as follows all times G.M.T.
2. Above arrangements provide for ship shore communication at certain times which are increased when arrangements under (b) are in force.
3. Communication at routine periods to U.K. is also arranged.
(D.S.D. 1613/A/27 to Ad. Miles)

Appointment of B.N.L.O. at Vladivostock.

Your 1014C/24. Reply. Proposals. (D.N.I. 1813A/27 to Ad. Miles) See Lion Copy.

Archangel Facilities for M/V's

Your 1903C/26. Request you will visit Archangel and forward a similar report at your very earliest convenience.
(V.C.N.S. 2231A/27 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk)

Movements

TAKU

My 1034A/26. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange onward passage from Methil.
(Capt. S. 7. 0951A/27)

BURZA
BEN-MY-CHREE

BURZA arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1115A/27)

/Proceed.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

27.9.1941.
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HOME COMMANDS

Movements

BURZA BEN-MY-CHREE -Contd.	Proceed in accordance with route supplied by N.C.S.O. to escort BEN-MY-CHREE to Thorshavn subsequently returning to Belfast in compliance with C. in C. W.A. 1150A/25. Codeword "Familiar" (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1244A/27 to BURZA) Intend sailing BEN-MY-CHREE escorted by BURZA for Thorshavn at 1500 today. E.T.A. 1800/28. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1308A/27) Sailed BEN-MY-CHREE escorted by BURZA in accordance with my 1308A/27. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1542A/27)
EXPRESS	Your 1452A/26. Request you will sail EXPRESS for Scapa on completion of refit and satisfactory D.G. ranging. (D.O.D. H. 1203A/27 to F.O. Humber)
ETHIOPIAN	Intend sailing ETHIOPIAN escorted by WALLFLOWER, NIGELLA in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1932A (A) /18 and 1535A/25 at 0500/28. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 1256A/27)
S/M H.32.	My 1034A/26. Intended to sail H.32 to Oban in company with Dutch T.B. Z.5. and TAKU. Arrangements. (Capt. (S) 7, 1614A/27.)
SAINT CROIX EYE BRIGHT PRESCOTT AGASSIZ	Intend sailing H.M.C.S. SAINT CROIX, EYE BRIGHT, PRESCOTT and AGASSIZ about 1600Z/28 for St. Johns, Newfoundland, escorting Westbound Merchant Vessels. (A.C.I.C. 1642/27)
BADSWORTH	When convoy enters Minches BADSWORTH is to proceed to Londonderry independently. (C. in C. W.A. 2319A/27.)

MOST SECRET

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Iceland-Faeroes Patrol.
Leave patrol at 1600/28 and return Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F., 09152/27 to PENELOPE)

Man picked up by BROCKLESBY
BROCKLESBY reports:- Have picked up one man in small boat in 050° 28' N. 002° 34' W. He states he sailed from Jersey. T.O.O. 1900/26 ends.
(2) BROCKLESBY E.T.A. Dartmouth, 1230/27.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1058/27)

East Coast Patrols.
Patrol tonight. (1) 2 M.G.B's vicinity South Leman Buoy. (2) One M.G.B. operation Q.E. with auxiliary patrol F.Y. (3) 2 M.L's and H.M.G.B's proceed eastward to Harwich returning daylight. (C. in C. Nore, 1616A/27)

Dover Patrols
Three M.L's leave Dover at 2200 returning at 0145/28, route via No. One Buoy each way.
Two M.T.B's leave Dover at 1930 to patrol between South and East Varne Buoys returning at 2300.
(V.A. Dover, 1726A/27)

British Air Activity

Bombing Operations.
On day 24/9 and night 24/25 Sept., days 25/9 and 26/9 and night 25/26, no operations took place owing to unsuitable weather.
On night 26/27 six A/C bombed the town and docks at Emden, and Genoa, Calais, Dunkirk and Ostend were also attacked. (H.Q.B.C. 1249/27)

ARK ROYAL A/C
Return to base.
(ARK ROYAL 1750/27 to her A/C)

Enemy Air Activity

SCHELDT (British, 497 tons) Bombed 25/9.
SCHELDT attacked off Smalls at 1945A/25 now in Barry Dock after being beached in Whitmore Bay. No casualties. Ship damaged by near miss. Attacking plane considered damaged by A/A fire.
(N.O.I.C. Barry 1050A/27)

Convoy P.W. 41.
Help "Watch" 130° LND8
(ATHERSTONE 1352/27
My 1349. One Ju. 88. dropped 2 delayed action bombs. No ship hit.
(ATHERSTONE 1400/27)
Help "Watch" 160 LND5
(ATHERSTONE 1429/27)
Help "Watch" 180 LND3
(ATHERSTONE 1441/27)

/My 1429.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy P.W.41 contd. My 1429. One J.U.88 attacked Tanker with two bombs. No damage. A/C hit by ATHERSTONE's short range armament disappeared losing height, port engine on fire. (ATHERSTONE 1438/27.) 3rd attack on Destroyer. 2 bombs no damage. (ATHERSTONE 1450/27.)

Faroes bombed. FRAM sunk. 1 enemy aircraft, believed Dornier 215, attacked Westmanhavn at 1330A/27. 2 bombs dropped. Faroes Fishing Vessel FRAM sunk by near miss. No other damage. No casualties. Same enemy aircraft attacked Sorvaag 1340/27. 2 bombs dropped. No casualties. Slight damage to civilian property. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1440A/27.)

BRITISH PRINCE. (Sunk 26/9.) Total crew 38 including 6 gunners no casualties of BRITISH PRINCE landed Grimsby from KITTIWAKE at 1610. Vessel attacked by one plane and hit 1930/26 and sank at 2020/26 in 53° 52 N. 00° 25 E. (F.O. Humber 1849A/27.)

Mining.

N.L.23. Intend to carry out operation N.L.23 tonight from 51° 02' 18" N. 01° 53' 54" E. (V.A. Dover 1029A/27.)

Explosion. Stokes Point reports explosion to South East at 1145 and 1150. Have you anything to report. (C. in C. Plymouth 1154/27 to BROCKLESBY, TREVO, TERCEIRO.)

Work of M.M.S.1. M.M.S.1. has now detonated 50 mines. Of these 40 were Acoustic and 10 Magnetic. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1235/27.)

P.W.20. Your 1051A/27. Approved to carry out Operation P.W.20 tonight Saturday with two M.Ls. One Unit of M.G.Bs is to act as covering force, maintaining a patrol in vicinity of Thornton Ridge Buoy and returning to Galloper at daylight. Full recognition procedure must be carried out by both Units on return from Patrol and laying positions. (C. in C. Nore 1242A/27 to BEEHIVE.) Departure M.G.Bs 64, 58, 63 and 65. M.Ls 106 and 100. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2002A/27.)

Thames Estuary. Two Magnetic Mines and 2 S.A. Mines detonated by Sweepers as follows, at 2103 and 2148/26 and at 0150 and 0205/27. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1527/27.)

/Enemy

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Thames Estuary contd. Enemy air activity over the Thames Estuary was marked between 2020 and 2210 on night 26/27. Ten or more Mines were seen to fall in following positions.
Twelve explosions probably due to mines were observed in the following positions.
Planes were not easily seen and appeared to be flying fairly low. One plane thought to have been hit. Nore Light Vessels light was burning and two ships in late F.S. convoy were showing lights when mines were dropped at 2035. One or more planes flashing correct recognition letter were circling at a low height near boom at about 2100 and 2200. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1543/27.)

Flamborough Head. My 1905/26. Reference mines exploded 170° Flamborough Head 6 miles. Fishing vessels were wooden motor boats. (F.O. Humber 1614A/27.)

S.N.16 A. Departure WELSHMAN and MANXMAN. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1945/27.)

Enemy Intelligence.

One M/V. One Merchant vessel position (indecipherable), course 150°, speed 14 knots. (Nore W/T 0957/27.)

TIRPITZ. (1) TIRPITZ carried out gunnery exercises afternoon 20th, firing with her main armament at battle practice target in area northeast of Rugen.
(2) On this occasion she was observed to be painted a light tint of blue grey. Graded A.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1004/27.)
Your 1514A/26. It appears possible torpedoes may be for their aircraft.
(C. in C. H.F. 1026Z/27 to Adty.)

Convoy off Haarlem on 26/9. M.T.B.31., on operation (A) ordered by your 1708A/19/9 reports following:-
"My 1456A/26. At 2200A/26 in 52° 18' N. 4° 12' E. sighted Convoy 18 Vessels, Course S.W., 6 knots. Leading ships had stern lights visible one mile. One small Destroyer passed ahead distance 400 yards. Patrol was then carried out. 1121A/29". Convoy was not attacked as M.T.B.31 was closing shore to carry out Operation which subsequently proved unsuccessful. (C. in C. Nore 1450A/27.)

Suspected E-Boat activity. E-Boats bear 040° from G. by D/F. (Nore W/T 2300A/27.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

REYNOLDS. Now anchored in examination anchorage with tug YORKSHIREMAN in attendance. Reported to be in no immediate danger. (F.O. Humber 0124A/27.)
REYNOLDS at Immingham, damaged by striking submerged object probably wreck of NAUTILUS three miles N.E. Humber L.V. 2236/26. No casualties. (F.O. Humber 1851A/27.)

NESTOR. Admiralty 1315A/26. Route from position C. as follows.
C. in C. Plymouth is requested to issue onward route from E. to Plymouth. E.T.A. position E. is 2100A/29. Speed of advance 15½ knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 1035A/27 to NESTOR.)
Admiralty 1315/26. Circumstances permitting request you will route NESTOR through 049° 30' N. 011° 00' W. so as to arrive 180° Bishops Rock 10 miles at dawn, whence Fighter protection will be provided. (C. in C. Plymouth 1146/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 1035A/27 and C. in C. Plymouth 1146/27. Amend position (E) to read 049° 30' N. 11° W. (C. in C. W.A. 1630A/27 to NESTOR.)

NORSE LADY. My 1644/27. NORSE LADY returned to Reykjavik after grounding. (N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1113Z/27.)

M.G.B.18.
M.G.B.19. M.G.Bs 18 and 19 sustained damage through grounding while exercising early today.
M.G.B. 19 now slipped at Portland. M.G.B.18 in harbour at Portland and may be slipped tomorrow. (ATTACK 1440A/27.)

WELWYN. (Recovery wooden steam drifter) Split her stem when in collision with Anstruther Middle Pier at 0700/26. Vessel has been beached at Anstruther for inspection. (N.C.S.O Methil 1444/27.)

TEDDINGTON (Damaged 15/9.) Weather permitting it is proposed to resume salvage operations on TEDDINGTON on 29/9. NESCUS, RICHARD LEE BARBER and Coaster BORNRIFF will be leaving Yarmouth approximately 1430 tomorrow for casualty. Probable duration of operation 3 to 4 days. Request fighter protection. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1515A/27.)

/VANCOUVER

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.9.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

VANCOUVER. (Mined 21/9) — VANCOUVER survey at 1400. Today fore part still burning. Ship as seen is not salvable. Fore part apparently still afloat and when fire has died out and gas disposed, salvage officer will be able to make complete survey and report on possibility of towing fore part nearer to shore. (Salvage Officer, Harwich 1600/27.)

KITTIWAKE (Collision 26/9.) — KITTIWAKE's 2213A/26. Arrangements can be made for KITTIWAKE to be taken in hand at Humber Graving Dock for docking and examination. (D.O.D.H. 1630A/27.)

NIGARISTAN. — In H.X.150, caught fire and abandoned in 057° 55' N. 027° 32' W. on 24/9. Crew all rescued by U.S. Destroyer EBERLE and landed in Iceland. Ship still afloat and burning. May be a danger to navigation. (A.C.I.C. 1830/27) (C. in C. W.A. 2247A/27.)

JESSIE MAERSK. — Detach NORWICH CITY and ST. LOMAN to assist JESSIE MAERSK reported by A/C in 59° N. 20° W. at 1630Z/27, course North, speed 4 knots, requiring help. Engine trouble.
(C. in C. W.A. 2142A/27 to BEAGLE.)
Your 2142/27th received and understood. Our P.C.S. at 2315, 059° 24' N. 022° 50' W., 067°, 10 knots. Request aircraft co-operate at daylight. (ST. LOMAN 2317A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

S.S. TORY ISLAND. — N.C.S.O. Leith 0912/27. S.S. TORY ISLAND is ashore 2 miles S.W. of Johnshaven. Crew of ten safe on shore. Salvage officer Aberdeen proceeding in IRON AXE to investigate. Present visibility nil. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2310/27.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoy Q.P.1. — Convoy Q.P.1 sails from Archangel 28/9. (D.O.D.H. 1200A/27 to R.A.D.)

Convoy P.Q.2. — BRAMBLE, SPEEDY SEAGULL and NIGER will be required to arrive at Scapa on 5/10 prior to proceeding with P.Q.2 from Hvalfiord to Archangel about 10/10.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to issue instructions accordingly. (A.C.N.S.H. 1246A/27.)

/E.C.79.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

E.C. 79.

Full cargo Government stores sailing in E.C.79 for Middle East via Capetown. (N.C.S.O. Number 1400/27.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

O.G.74.

8 ships O.G.74 E.T.A. Europa Point 2200A/27.
(EMPIRE AUDACITY, 0145A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Intend to leave convoy in time to arrive Europa Point at 1700A/27, MARIGOLD in company. Intend to disembark four aircraft to race course at 1700A. Have for examination following survivors: 20 officers and 66 ratings including 10 naval ratings, five army gunners, seven non-cot cases requiring admission to hospital and nine cases requiring out-patient treatment. Request arrangements for their disposal.
(EMPIRE AUDACITY, 0150A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

TRUANT.

Your 1410A/25. 1 engine defective. Delay of 12 hours.
(TRUANT, 0516A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)
TRUANT 0516A and THORN 2329A/26 received. My 1410A/25 para. 2, previous report of R/V is now 1200A/29.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0910A/27 to THORN, TRUANT.)

Sicily Aircraft.

Air Intelligence reports some M.E.110 believed operating from Sicily.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1044A/27 to Force H.)

Force H, Operation "Halberd".

At 1000 G.M.T. Italian R/C planes reported sighting 5 types of unit.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1216A/27 to S.O. Force H.)
W.D. Note: Other "Halberd" signals precised in Mediterranean.

Italian Fleet Dispositions.

Your 2204A/26. Inference from T.O.O. is that this movement and R/C took place on 26th whereas it is a summary of Malta R/C of 25th.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1207A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy R/C of Gibraltar.

Heinkel III with German markings 722, R/C of Gibraltar at 26,000 feet a.m. today.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1236A/27 to Admty., Force H.)

French ShiPping.

Gibraltar 1130 French armed trawler L'AJACCIENNE
French Ships CAPITAINE ST.MARTIN, laden, deck cargo of cork, FOUDROYANT, MONTAIGNE, both laden Eastbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1830A/27 to Admty., etc.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

EAGLE,
DORSETSHIRE.
(Force F.)

Your 1951/26. EAGLE will probably be required to proceed to U.K.
(D.O.D.(F) 0054A/27 to C. in C. S.A.)
My 1951/26, do not sail EAGLE until further orders.
(C. in C. S.A., 0031N/27 to S.O. Force F.)
W.D. Note:- EAGLE arrived St. Helena for fuel 1200/26.
833. Your 1951N/26. 7 Serviceable Swordfish available Wynberg for exchange forthwith. Of remaining 7 damaged Swordfish repairs to three can be undertaken at Wynberg immediately, estimated time 12 days, and on other four when spares are obtained. Enquiries are being made from South African Air Force. These transfers should take place Capetown preferably after departure of convoy W.S.11 about 4-5/10. Supply of new Walrus aircraft to DORSETSHIRE should take place at Simonstown. Request information from EAGLE whether damaged Swordfish are capable of flying off or must be transported by road. Enquiries are being made whether dock at Durban will be available after completion of repairs to REVENGE approx. 12/10.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1043Z/27 to C. in C. S.A.)
EAGLE's 1330/16. EAGLE should be sent to U.K. 2. If endurance permits she should accompany CAMERONIA, but if not she should be sailed for Gibraltar so as to be ready to continue to U.K. in company with ARGUS who is expected to leave Gibraltar about 12/10.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1235A/27 to C. in C. S.A.)
My 0031/27. DORSETSHIRE and EAGLE are to proceed to Freetown passing through J 35 B and I 35 C thence to Freetown arriving a.m./3. EAGLE will leave Freetown for Gibraltar and U.K. 5/10.
(C. in C. S.A., 1607N/27 to S.O. Force F.)

BULOLO,
ALCANTARA.

Your 1627/25 and your 1055/26. Present intention is for BULOLO to arrive Tristan da Cunha a.m./3 and to house a landing party on Nightingale Island as necessary until relieved by ALCANTARA on 4th or 5/10. In view of possible delay due to weather conditions request ALCANTARA may be authorized to stand by party until work is completed, subsequently re-embarking party for passage to Cape.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1253Z/27 to C. in C. S.A.)

/U-Boats.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 27.9.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

U-Boats. Estimated dispositions 1426/27.
(C. in C. S.A., 1820N/27 to R.A.S.A.D.)

KOSCIUSZKO. Sailed U.K. 23/9 in convoy O.S.7. (Details) On arrival Durban ship will have vacant accommodation for approx. 885. Suggest ship be included in appropriate C.M. Convoy and embarked to capacity. Intended to retain vessel on service in Indian Ocean.
(D.O.D.(F) 1826A/27 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.)

REPULSE, W.S.11. Your 1107B/26 (N.T. in W.R.) and C. in C. S.A's 1201N/25. Fuel (? 7500 alternative "3300") tons. (i) (? apparently) even keel. (ii) 33½ forward, 33 aft. E.T.A. Cape portion 0900B/30.
DERBYSHIRE detached 0800Z/25, has not yet rejoined.
(REPULSE, 2114Z/27 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

M.L.C's. Request you will arrange for shipment to Gibraltar as soon as possible of two M.L.C. (numbers 33 and 35), now at Freetown. 2. Elder Dempsters and United Africa Company have been requested by Ministry of War Transport to arrange for the first homeward bound ship with suitable deck space and derricks to call at Freetown for this purpose. 3. C. in C. S.A. is requested to sail this ship in appropriate S.L. convoy, and F.O.C.N.A. to provide escort from point of leaving convoy to Gibraltar.
(D.O.D.(F) 2132A/27 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy Ships in Uruguay. My 2251Z/11. Uruguay has formally taken possession of two Italian and two Danish ships in Montevideo.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 2140Z/27 to D.N.I.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 27.9.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" and Movement of Enemy Fleet.

Air Operations.

(1) Elmas and Borizzo. Aircraft turned back owing to weather. Possibly try again later.
(2) Marsala. Attacked seaplane damaged.
(3) Correct par. (1) 2 only Beau-fighters attacked Borizzo with success.
(V.A. Malta, 1015B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

M.T. Ships.

PORT CHALMERS and CITY OF PRETORIA sailed 1045B/27.
(V.A. Malta, 1055B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

"Halberd" diversion.

Departure 26/9 C. in C. Med. in QUEEN ELIZABETH, HERO, HOTSPUR, JERVIS, JUPITER, KINGSTON, KIN, KIPLING, DECOY, VENDETTA, VALIANT, BARHAM, AJAX, HOBART, NEPTUNE, OTUS, NAPIER,
(S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1109B/27.)

Air R/C.

Visual R/C (i) Taranto, three battleships (ii) Naples, visibility bad but no battleships seen (iii) Messina, no change (iv) Palermo, visibility bad (v) my 1015B/27 para. 1, six Blenheims to Elmas 1300B.
(V.A. Malta, 1245B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

Battleships, Naples.

My 2245B/25. From enlargements Naples it appears battleships were LITTORIO class, not CAVOUR.
(V.A. Malta, 1331B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

Enemy Fleet.

P.C. and S. of enemy, 2 battleships, 8 destroyers 38.20 N., 10.40 E - 190° - 20 knots.
(A/C, B. Sqdn., 1340/26 (?27) to Hal Far.)
Following received. Addressed Med. A/C from Med. A/C.
The total enemy forces sighted up to the time indicated (1425) consist of 2 Battleships, 4 Cruisers, 16 Destroyers.
(Nore W/T, T.O.R. 1341/27 to Whitehall W/T.)
P.C. and S. of enemy, 4 cruisers 8 destroyers 38.15 N., 10.30 E., 190°, 20 knots.
(A/C, B. Sqdn., 1350/27 to Hal Far.)
Enemy has altered course to 360 approx.
(A/C, B. Sqdn., 1445/27 to Hal Far.)

/2 Battleships...

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" and Movement of Enemy Fleet.

Enemy Fleet. Contd.

2 Battleships, 4 Cruisers, 16 Destroyers in vicinity 038° 17' 010° 35' Course 190° 20 knots at 1345B/27.
(Capt. S.10, 1445B/27 to 10th S.F., 0.21.)
Position of enemy battle fleet is 38.25 N., 10.30 E., mean line of advance X14 060.
(A/C B, Sqdn., 1503/27 to Hal Far.)
Position of enemy battle fleet is 046 38° N., 10° E. 39, Mean line of advance is 060 20.
(Med. A/C, 1525/27 to Med. A/C.)
P.C. and S. of enemy (5 Cruisers, 2 destroyers and 1 enemy war motor boat) 090, 6 38.30 N., 9.59 E., 320.
(Med. A/C, 1530/27.)

NELSON hit.

"Halberd" attacked by (? Torpedo bombing A/C).
NELSON hit by one torpedo.
(F.O. Force H., 1342B/27 to Admty.)
NELSON's speed reduced to 18 knots. Proceeding ahead with battleships and 6 destroyers to intercept enemy if possible.
(S.O. Force H., 1427B/27 to Adty.)
My 1427. NELSON speed 15 knots, remaining with convoy till Skerki.
PRINCE OF WALES, RODNEY, and some light forces proceeding ahead.
(S.O. Force H., 1517B/27 to Admty.)

Italian dispositions.

Photographs confirm (1) 2 battelships have left Naples, 1 cruiser remaining. (2) Messina, Palermo, no change from my 2033B/26. (3) Taranto, 3 battleships and 5 cruisers.
(V.A. Malta, 1515B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

TRUSTY, UPHOLDER.

At 2000/27 intend moving TRUSTY and UPHOLDER to Southern approach to Naples.
(Capt. S.10, 1541B/27 to C. in C. Med.)
At 2000B/27 unless otherwise ordered by C. in C. Mediterranean, TRUSTY and UPHOLDER proceed with despatch to patrol in vicinity of 040° 33' 013° 43' and 040° 33' 013° 59' respectively, TRUSTY keeping North and UPHOLDER South of line 060° thro' 040° 00' 012° 38' to intercept battle fleet returning to Naples. Both S/M's will be recalled by signal, TRUSTY disregarding my 1005B/27.
(Capt. S.10, 1715B/27 to 10 S.F.)

/Air R/C.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" & Movement of Enemy Fleet - Con.

Air R/C.

My 2320B/26. Poor visibility, nothing seen. Being repeated this afternoon. (ii) Extra R/C Malta to Cape Colonne being carried out this afternoon.
(V.A. Malta, 1544/27 to S.O. Force H.)
Relief shadower is also defective, second relief should be over enemy by 1730B but must leave 1830B.
(V.A. Malta, 1633B/27 to S.O. Force H.)
(i) R/C tomorrow Sunday early.
(a) Malta channel in 2 halves north and south of track.
(b) Line patrol Malta to Cape Passero.
(c) Line patrol Sardinia to Sicily.
(d) Taranto Cagliari.
(e) Afteroon. Naples, Palermo and Messina.
(ii) Escort for "Halberd". 2 Fulmars collective call sign 6 M Q and R/T "Holborn" from 0615B.
6 Beaufighters from 0645B, relieved by second 6.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1906B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

IMPERIAL STAR, torpedoed.

IMPERIAL STAR torpedoed position 37° 31' N. 10° 46' E. engine room flooded, making no more water, unable to steam. HEYTHROP removing passengers intend take in tow.
(ORIBI, 2110/27 to C.S.10.)
IMPERIAL STAR, British 12,427 tons. Not yet known whether attack was by A/C, S/M, or E/B.
(D.O.R. 28/9.)

Air R/C.

R/C report 27th. No warships Naples, Palermo, Messina. Taranto, no change.
(Capt. S.10, 2122B/27 to 10 S/M Flot.)

Air Operations.

Air attacks today.
(1) Borizzo. 10 aircraft damaged. (2) Elmas. 20 seaplanes and 2 S.79's later with torpedoes attached. Result unknown. (3) Marsala. 4 seaplanes damaged. (4) Anti M.A.S. patrols. No M.A.S. seen but 2 destroyers. 180° Marsala 2, course 135° 7 knots.
(V.A. Malta, 2215B/27 to S.O. Force H.)

Situation Report 153.

1st B.S., 7th C.S., and destroyers have returned to Alexandria after diversion for operation "Halberd" in accordance with my 1050B/22.

/No enemy....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" and Movement of Enemy Fleet.

Situation Report 153. Contd.

No enemy aircraft were detected and Fleet was apparently not sighted. W/T silence was accordingly broken during night 26/27 to demonstrate presence of Fleet at sea.
2. Western Desert. Operation "Supercharge". Final movement in progress night 27/28 with one minelayer and three destroyers. Enemy air opposition has been slight throughout. R.A.F. report small ship arrived Bardia today, 27th, in spite of extensive air R/C. Ship is being attacked in harbour by R.A.F. and F.A.A.
3. Red Sea. Protection of important ships by cruisers and sloop continues. HUNT class destroyers expected Port Sudan 28th to assist.
4. Levant Shipping Routes. Some air attack but no damage reported. Contact reported by SOUTHERN SEA 33.29 N., 34.35 E. at 1245/28. Hunting continues, reinforced by two corvettes. My 2031/23. ANTAR sank before reaching harbour.
5. Aircraft. 830 Squadron have laid Cucumbers at Tripoli and attacked. Reported in H.Q. Med. 2236/23. Successful R.A.F. attacks on shipping in Benghazi, but Striking Force failed to find Brindisi - Benghazi convoy on 24th.
6. Submarines. Tenth S/M Flotilla being disposed to intercept return of enemy ships reported at sea North West of Sicily today 27th.
(C. in C. Med., 2217B/27.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

General.

SULLBERG (German)	Departure 25th, Genoa. (Valencia, T.H.I. 0030/27 to D. of S.T.)
Palermo mines.	My 2315/26. 4 laid in semi-circle covering S.E. approach. 250 yards approx. from South end of Outer Mole. (Capt. S.10, 0809B/27 to URGE.) 4 Cucumbers laid in South Eastern entrance to Palermo. (V.A. Malta, 0925B/27 to S.O. Force H.)
Suez Bay.	Obstructions have been laid in following positions. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 0926/ ?, recd. 0745/28, to Admty.)
TRUSTY, SOKOL.	TRUSTY and Polish Sub. SOKOL leave patrol to pass through 038° 24' 012° 38' at 2000B and 2300B/29 respectively thence through 038° 00' 011° 40' and 037° 15' 012° 55' and by N.W. searched channel to arrive Marsamxett before 2000B/1. Any Submarines encountered are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10, 1005B/27 to 10th S/M Flot.)
Turkey.	Continuing his 1824B/25, re delivery of warships and attitude towards interned French ships. (N.A. Angora, from Adm. Kelly 1104B/27 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
Buoys.	Aircraft report red buoys 1½ miles apart in line extending 20 miles 120° from 031° 10' 018° 15'. Purpose unknown. (Capt. S.10, 1110B/27 to PERSEUS, THRASHER.)
Benghazi bombed.	Night 25/26 Sept. 6 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi Harbour, bombs bursting at base of Central, Cathedral, and Juliana moles. No damage observed. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1113/27.)

/PERSEUS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

PERSEUS, THRASHER. — Capt. (S) 1's 1847B/23. Proceed through 033° 40' 015° 00' and 035° 34' 014° 10' to arrive Marsamxett 0700B/1. SOKOL and TRUSTY due after daylight by North West Channel.
(Capt. S.10, 1115B/27 to THRASHER, PERSEUS.)

COETLOGON, ST. BRIEUC, MAURO CROCE. — Departure 26th, COETLOGON, French, Sete.
Arrivals 26th ST. BRIEUC, French, MAURO CROCE, Italian.
(Barcelona, 1321/27 to M. of W.T.)

M/V's. — 2 Merchant ships 133° Belo Pulo 48, steering Northwest at 1104B/27.
(Capt. S.1, 1416B/27 to TETRARCH.)

DELPHINIUM, ERICA. — If no result by 1600?C/27 return to Beirut.
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1439C/27 to DELPHINIUM, ERICA.)
Join southbound Port Said convoy in position 7 miles West of Saida at 1900C/27. S.O.A. 6½ knots. ERICA complies with my 1439C/27.
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1547C/27 to DELPHINIUM.)

RADCOMBE, DELPHINIUM. — My 1113C/27. RADCOMBE join convoy off Haifa. DELPHINIUM join off Saida as additional escort.
(N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1619C/27 to N.O.I.C. Port Said, etc.)

TETRARCH. — Leave (R) p.m./29 proceeding through Antikithera Channel and 035° 23' 023° 04' and 034° 14' 024° 00' thence direct to Alexandria to arrive sanctuary 0530B/3.
(Capt. S1., 1651B/27 to TETRARCH.)

CONFEDERATE. — C. in C. E.I.'s 0456/25 (CONFEDERATE to Massawa for salvage of GEORGIC.) Sail CONFEDERATE as convenient to comply.
(C. in C. Med., 1730B/27 to S.B.N.O. C.A.)

AVON VALE, ERIDGE. — S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 0955Z/27 (N.T. in W.D.)
Request you will sail AVON VALE (? and) ERIDGE to arrive Suez by 1500Z/29.
(S.O. Suez Escort Force, 1742/27 to N.O.I.C. Port Sudan.)

/Turkey....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Turkey. Interview with Marshal Chekmak.
(N.A. Angora, from Adm. Kelly, 1801B/27 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

NAPIER, JACKAL. Request you sail NAPIER and JACKAL p.m./28 for Port Said. Ships may be employed as escort if requested by N.O.I.C. Alexandria.
(C. in C. Med., 18233/27 to F.O.C.(D) Med.)

TRIUMPH. (Corrupt group) Adriatic. No torpedoes but 126 rounds of ammunition remain. Intend diving position 038° 28' 019° 36' dawn/28, course 143° request route.
Special operation completed (? night) (20th ?). 18th, left one tanker damaged in harbour C (? G) one another damaged burning off Ortona 24th. 23rd sank one ship off Sibenik. Considerable (unescorted) coastal traffic Brindisi, Bari. Searched channel extends 070° from Bari. 7 ships in harbour 26th. Did not attack in this area.
(TRIUMPH, 1852B/27 to Capt. S.1.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

"R" Report.	(1) Trincomalee W/T Station report what may have been set of R's were made at 1549Z/26. Transmission broken off before completion of third set. Signal strength very weak and report therefore unreliable. Any ship intercepting similar signal is to report it including Admty., Y in Address. (C. in C. E.I., 0246Z/27 to E.I. Sqdn,.)
Convoy M.A. 1.	Convoy consisting of YOMA SALWEEN, ASCANIUS B, MANCHESTER PORT, leaving Mombasa 5/10 for Gulf of Aden will be known as M.A.1. (C. in C. E.I., 0748Z/27 to D.S.T.O. Mombasa).
S.W.10	P.S.T.O. Egypt 1821/25 (1) Escort will be provided (2) Convoy will be known as S.W.10 (C. in C. E.I., 0822Z/27 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).
KALO, FISHPOOL, collision.	S.S. KALO bound for Aden Suez sunk in collision with S.S. FISHPOOL bound for Suez Aden on 24/9, 0130Z. Position 19° 08' N., 39° 13' E. No casualties. Crew landed at Aden. Temporary repairs FISHPOOL required at Aden. KALO routed in accordance C. in C. E.I. 0614/19/8. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 1012Z/27 to Admty etc).
CENTURION.	It would greatly facilitate work in H.M.I. Dockyard, Bombay, if earliest date CENTURION is likely to be required could be indicated. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 1207Z/27 to C. in C. E.I.) Reply: 1st November. (1st S.L. 0027A/29).
CARTHAGE, ISLAMI.	CARTHAGE ? escorting ISLAMI sailed. (N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 1315Z/27 to Admty etc).
Persian operations.	Your 1204Z/25. No information of action against Persian warships should be published at present for following reasons:- (a) We were not at war with Persia (b) One of our best friends in Persia, the Admiral, was killed. (c) Desired to avoid anything which might prejudice situation in Persia. On receipt of summary to which you refer, Admiralty will signal whether or not publication is approved. (D.P.D. 1353A/27 to C. in C. E.I.)

/Jibuti.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Jibuti blockade. — Protest by Governor. (G.O.C.in C. E.A. 1433/27) See Lion Copy.

Force W. — My 0754/13 is cancelled, Force W has now dispersed. (C. in C. E.I., 1512Z/27 to E.I.Sqdn).

China.

MARECHAL JOFFRE, (French). — Arrival 26th. (Manila, 0240Z/27 to M. of W.T.)

G.G.PASQUIER. (French). — Arrival 26th. (Singapore, 0417/27 to D. of S.T.)

America & West Indies.

S.C. Convoy Escorts. — Your 1407A/22. Reply re strength of N.E.F. escorts for S.C. Convoys. (1st S.L., 0116A/27 to C.N.S. Canada) See Lion Copy.

U.S. Forces. — Following received from Opnav in reply to Spenavo despatch concerning Task Force 15 and Crudiv 7. In view of the speed and composition of Units and with no further information of submarines, it is not anticipated to divert either Unit to the Southeast. (A.L.U.S.N.A., London, 1015/27 to Admty).

CLARKIA, TULIP. — Take TULIP under your orders and leave Bermuda A.M./28. Proceed Trinidad via Sombrero Passage so as to arrive 2/10. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1052Q/27 to CLARKIA).

/MIMOSA.....

MOST SECRET.

9

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

MIMOSA. My 2151Z/26. MIMOSA detach forthwith and proceed St. John's Newfoundland at best prudent speed. (C.C.N.F., 1201Z/27 to MIMOSA).

Convoy Escorts. C. in C. W.A. 1236A/26. and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1932Z/26. (1) Request MOOSEJAW complete A/S training at Tobermory prior to her return to be sailed for St. Johns N.F. with next O.N.S. after completion.
(11) Intend detailing two corvettes from escort of S.C. 47 to continue with that convoy to U.K. for A/S training.
(111) Request BARRIE, DAUPHIN, and ARVIDA be ordered to continue to Newfoundland with O.N.S.25.
(C.C.N.F., 1314Z/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

POTLATCH. Have you any news of U.S. Ship POTLATCH from Lourenco Marques due Trinidad 23/9?
(D.T.D., 1403A/27 to S.O.(I) Jamaica).

CATHAY. CATHAY will now be refitted U.S. Navy Yard Brooklyn, not Boston. U.S. Authorities will cut mast to pass under bridges if desired and later replace same. Ship should pick up pilot at Ambrose L/V 2100Z 5 time and fly red ensign until received in Navy Yard. Can expected date of arrival now be given?. (B.A.R.M., 1412R/27 to Admty).

PRINCE HENRY. Bermuda departure PRINCE HENRY, S.S. CAPETOWN CASTLE in accordance with my 1032Q/26/9. E.T.A. 1200Q/29/9. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1603Q/27 to Admty).

Balloons in M/Vs. Merchant ships are arriving in Canada equipped with balloons but with insufficient hydrogen to inflate for return voyages. Trade Division memorandum D.E.M.S. 166 intimates sufficient bottles will be issued at U.K. ports for voyages homeward. No facilities at present exist to take care of this in Canadian Ports.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1656Z/27 to Admty).

Tankers, D/G. Your 1101QR/26. Tankers should proceed direct to Halifax for ranging.
(D.T.D., 1848A/27 to S.B.N.O. Curacao).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Thursday Island.	Your 1143/25. N.O.I.C. Thursday Island ten hours fast on G.M.T. (A.C.N.B., 0901Z/27 to Admty).
Suspicious Ship.	Your 1215/26. M.V. TANIMBO due Panama 4/10 was in the vicinity. (N.Z.N.B., 1155M/27 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.9.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

H.G.73 (attacked 26/9) SPRINGBANK, CERVANTES, SIREMALM.

LEITH is to part company from BB 81 and R/V with ZWARTE ZEE in position 270° Bardsey Island 7 miles at 1159A/27. LEITH is to take ZWARTE ZEE under her orders and proceed to the assistance of a ship name unknown torpedoed in H.G.73 in 47° 52' N., 23° 40' W., at about 0100A/26.
Ship appeared little damaged. Route South of Ireland by Q.Z.F. 18. Fighter protection arranged, code word "Shilling". (C. in C. W.A., 0046A/27 to LEITH, F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0229A/27 to ZWARTE ZEE).
Further to attack on H.G.73, it is known that CERVANTES, British, 1810 tons, and SIREMALM, Norwegian , 2468 tons, were torpedoed during night of 26-27/9. Survivor situation is obscure, but it appears some 250 are accounted for, including it is presumed some from SPRINGBANK. (D.O.R., 28/9) (D.S., 754 28/9).
Acknowledging your 0229A. Please confirm destination. (ZWARTE ZEE, 0535A/27 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).
Your 0535A/27. R/V position 270° Bardsay Island 7 miles. Destination 47° 52' N., 23° 40' W. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0705A/27 to ZWARTE ZEE)
Acknowledged (ZWARTE ZEE, 0845A/27).
Convoy arriving attacked twice and scattered 10 miles, believed four ships torpedoed. Further signal at daylight. SPRINGBANK is disabled. 49.05 20.10, 44.62 06.55.
(FOWEY, 0327A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
SPRINGBANK, Aux. A/A and fighter catapult ship, escorting H.G.73.(D.O.R., 28/9).
SPRINGBANK afloat and drifting in 049° 10' N., 020° 05' W., JASMINE standing by. Salvage possible but unlikely. (FOWEY, 0808A/27 to LEITH).
SPRINGBANK still afloat. Consider JASMINE should be relieved as soon as possible tonight shortage fuel urgent surgical cases and main W/T out of action. Request instructions.
(Capt. SPRINGBANK, and FOWEY., 1830A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
SPRINGBANK sank at 1915A. Am rejoining convoy.
(JASMINE, 1945A/27 to FOWEY).

/S.L.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.9.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. - Contd.

S.L.87
SILVERBELLE,
EDWARD
BLYDEN,
NICETO DE
LARRINAGA,
ST. CLAIR II,
JOHN HOLT,
LAFIAN,
DIXCOVE.

Your 1209A/21, estimate 7.25 knots hereafter. Except for R.D.F. replacement, my 2100Z/21, local escort superfluous since Convoy 4 escort 4. Landed 104 civilians survivors Azores yesterday. (GORLESTON, 0915Z/27, to C. in C. W.A.) Report of attacks 22/9. (GORLESTON, 0930/27 to C. in C. W.A.) See Lion and Tiger Copies. Now known that 3 more ships in S.L.87 were torpedoed and sunk during attacks on 22/9 and 23/9 - JOHN HOLT, British 4975 tons, LAFIAN, British 4876 tons, and DIXCOVE British 3790 tons. These bring to 7 the total number of ships lost from the Convoy (D.O.R., 28/9).
D.S.754, 28/9, states ships were torpedoed and probably sunk at 0541/24. Position about 400 miles S. by E of San Miguel, Azores.

Submarines Reported.

1700/26. Reported three U-boats and a supply ship escorted by patrol boats and three aircraft passed Hellefjord 61° 36' N., 04° 58' E., at 1700/26. Course S. (D.D.I.C., 0056A/27 to MINERVE).

Estimated dispositions of U-boats.
(D.D.I.C., 1426A/27) (C. in C. S.A.,1820N/27 to R.A.S.A.D.)

1306Z. BBy D/F at 1306Z/27. Position of enemy U-boat was 51° - 52° N., 14° - 15° W.
(D.D.I.C., 1459A/27).

1739C. By D/F U-boat in 068° 24' N., 042° 46' E. Admiralty pass to LONDON and ELECTRA.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1739C/27 to Admty).

1556Z. D/F Bearings indicate that Convoy H.G.73 was reported by a U-boat at 1556Z/27.
(D.D.I.C., 1746A/27 to FOWEY, BEGONIA, JASMINE, LARKSPUR, WOLVERINE).

Unidentified S/M. Your 1048/23 not Spanish. (N.A. Madrid, T.HJ. 2215/27 to S.O.(I) Gib).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

28.9.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

The Russian S/M patrol of Vestfiord has been withdrawn for the present.

PENELOPE left Denmark Straits this morning.

Operation "Chopper"

Small fighting patrols were landed last night at St. Vaast (East of Cherbourg peninsula) and St. Aubin (North of Caen)

Enemy Air Operations

A bomb was dropped in RALEIGH (Training Establishment, Cornwall) at about 2200 today. No casualties or damage resulted.

Mining

It is thought that enemy aircraft may have laid mines at the entrance to the White Sea, near Ponoi.

Operation P.W. 20
S.N. 16 A

2 M.L's laid mines off the French coast last night.
WELSHMAN and MANXMAN laid mines off Aberdeen today.

Steam Trawler MURIELLE exploded a mine in her trawl about 8 miles S.W. by S. of Morecambe Bay and sank later whilst in tow.

/Mines were.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - Contd.

Mines were detonated today in the Humber area and Thames Estuary.

Mines are suspected off Milford Haven.
Ground mines were exploded today and on 26/9 off Strumbles Head.

South Atlantic.

S.S. MARCELLA reports that at 0330 G.M.T. 22nd. he sighted a German built vessel heading south in 20° S. 38° W., which he considered suspicious.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd".

Early this morning HERMIONE and destroyers carried out a bombardment of Pantellaria as a diversion, which was effective. The shore batteries did not reply until the lapse of 4½ minutes.
The Convoy, less IMPERIAL STAR, escorted by the cruisers arrived at Malta safely at 1842B today. Hurricanes made 3 bombing attacks on Comiso Aerodrome to keep down fighters whilst convoy was arriving.
NELSON parted company at dusk, to return to Gibraltar screened by 3 destroyers: the remainder returned to R/V with the cruisers.
It appeared from air R/C that the enemy battleships only were returning to Naples, whilst the cruisers were returning to Messina. URGE was ordered at 1820B to move towards the western entrance to the Straits of Messina.
The total losses of enemy aircraft were 14 certain, one probable, others damaged. We lost 3 Fulmars (2 crews saved), of which 2 were shot down accidentally by the fleet.

/12 Wellingtons...

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

12 Wellingtons attacked shipping at Palermo from 1932 to 2158 and 4 Beaufighters attacked the aerodrome and seaplane base.

Enemy aircraft approached Malta last night and dropped bombs in the sea off the Grand Harbour.

Libya & Western Desert.

The final movement of operation "Supercharge" took place last night with one minelayer and 3 destroyers. Enemy air opposition has been slight throughout.

Air attacks were continued throughout last night on an enemy ship which had succeeded in reaching Bardia. The ship was attacked again today. Enemy aircraft bombed Tobruk today and dropped a few mines.

Rhodes.

11 Wellingtons bombed Rhodes harbour last night.

KING GEORGE I.

It is reported that the Greek destroyer KING GEORGE I which was sunk when Greece was evacuated and was salved in June, will be ready for service early in November and will be manned by Germans.

U-Boat Campaign.

Convoy H.G.73

FOWEY reports that the convoy was attacked again last night. S.S. MARGARETA was sunk. The convoy was probably sighted and shadowed by aircraft today.

Panamanian M.S. TRINIDAD sunk.

Ten survivors have been landed at Oporto from Panamanian M.S. TRINIDAD sunk by gunfire by a German S/M 380 miles N.W. of Cape Finisterre on, it is reported, 5/9.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

A/S Drifters for Iceland.

Your 1754/30th April. Request I may be informed whether these 4 drifters should still remain at 24 hours' notice for service at Iceland.
(A.C.O.S. 1237A/28 to Admty.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

WICHITA, MISSISSIPI, WASP, VULCAN.

Your 1456A/26, para. 2.
Arrived 1030.
(A.C.I.C., 2230/28.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian S/M movements.

Admiralty's 1157A/27. There are no Soviet Union submarines now operating west of 015° East. (? Therefore) it is not intended for Soviet Union S/M's to proceed to patrol Vestfiord for the present. Notice will be given of any proposed S/M operation West of 015° East.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 13240/28.)

Two M/V's. torpedoed.

MOLODKI class 174 arrived p.m./27th having penetrated Petsamo Harbour on 26/9 and torpedoed two M/V's estimated 8000 and 5000 tons respectively discharging alongside.
Submarine broke surface after firing and was under fire from rifles and machine guns and subsequently heavily depth charged before reaching open water five hours later.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk, 13260/28.)

Defence of U.K.

Sea Platforms for A/A Guns.

Admiralty 1929A/23 not sent to above addressees. (Signal repeated)
2. A.A. Command have now instructed 1st and 3rd A.A. Corps. to extend examination to include -
Southend Convoy Anchorage.
Milford Haven Convoy Anchorage.
Scapa Fleet Anchorage.
Clyde Tail of Bank.
Oban Convoy Anchorage.
Loch Ewe Convoy Anchorage.
3. Reports in accordance with para. 5 above should quote Admiralty 1929A/23.
(D. of L.D., 2013A/28 to A.C.O.S., C. in C. Nore, F.O.I.C's Milford Haven, Greenock.)

/CONQUEROR..

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 28.9.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K. - Contd.

CONQUEROR. Your 2355/27. CONQUEROR is to be sailed as in A.M. 1115A/27.
(A.C.N.S. H., 2119A/28 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Movements.

NIGER (P.Q.2.) In view of Admty. 1246A/27, my 1151A/26 is cancelled. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to sail NIGER as necessary.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1103A/28.)

P.31, P.35, O.10, H.32. (1) Intend to sail P.31 and P.35 escorted by CUTTY SARK passing Bell Rock 2000A/30 for Switha Boom where P.35 is to be diverted into Scapa and O.10 to join CUTTY SARK and P.31. E.T.A. Switha Boom 1100A/1.
(2) Ships are then to proceed through Minches and Sound of Mull to Oban where O.10 is to be diverted and H.32 to join P.31 and CUTTY SARK. E.T.A. Oban 1430A/2.
(3) Thence CUTTY SARK to escort P.31 and H.32 to 290° Bishop Rock 5 miles. E.T.A. 0300A/5.
(4) Thence P.31 dive by day to 046° N. 009° W. thence on surface at C.O's discretion to 043° N. 10° 40' W. where E.T.A. 0200/8. Thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
CUTTY SARK on parting company with P.31 is to escort H.32 to Plymouth. E.T.A. 1500A/5.
(8) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange for fighter co-operation as follows.
(Capt. S.9., 1211A/28.)

Operations.

Firth of Lorne A/S Patrol. My 1309A/25. Patrol of two in number A/S Seine Net vessels now established on a line direction 322° from Wilson Rock, Kerrara Island to S.E. Shore of Lismore Island. Chart No.2476.
(N.O.I.C. Oban, 1214A/28.)

BULLDOG. Fired on. BULLDOG reported she was fired on by shore batteries entering Hvalfiord at 2000/22. E.T.A. was made four hours before arrival and acknowledged three hours before arrival. Time of E.T.A. was adhered to. Visibility low. Marksmanship was good.
(C. in C. W.A., 1533A/28.)

/Operation....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 28.9.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Operation "Chopper".	All Forces have returned to Harbour. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1603A/28.)
PENELOPE. (Iceland - Faroes Patrol.)	E.T.A. 0930Z/29. (PENELOPE, 2130Z/28.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing operations.	Night 27/28. All operations were cancelled owing to unfavourable weather. (H.Q.B.C., 0103/28.)
Loch Ewe.	From October 5th a very large number of balloons will be continuously flying around the perimeter and afloat in Loch Ewe. These will make flying extremely dangerous for aircraft. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1019A/28.)
Patrols.	"Hornli" now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1206/28.) One Hudson will be carrying out line patrol from Pendeen 30 miles 315°, between 1930 and 2359. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1720/28.)
Search for M.L.1071.	One Blenheim leaves Bircham Newton 1515 today searching for motor launch 1071 between Sheringham and Aldeburgh light buoy(s). (C. in C. Nore, 1433A/28.)
Portland. Protected Area for Shipping.	My 1657B of 21/9. Amend code word for Portland's protected area to read "Meadow". (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1543A/28.)
Homing A/C procedure.	Carry out Homing Aircraft procedure in W.A.S.O. Art. 213. Transmit at 1730A/28. (C. in C. W.A., 1654A/28 to WOLVERINE.)
Anti-shipping Force in Channel.	Ops. 72, 28/9. From 29/9/41 to 3/10/41 inclusive when 2 Group will be co-operating with the Army, their role in attacking shipping in the Channel and southern North Sea will be undertaken by 16 Group. Striking force to include three aircraft of 22 Squadron to be detached to Manston. (H.Q.C.C., 2120/28.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

ST. EUMAN attacked. Enemy A/C destroyed.

Master of ST. EUMAN reports when 3 miles S.W. of Smalls at 1950/25 twin engine enemy float plane approached at 1000 feet and attacked using machine guns. ST. EUMAN engaged. Plane burst into flames, cleared funnel by 15 feet, and exploded on surface 300 yards on port beam. S.S. GLENCREE and MELITO in company. GLENCREE witnessed incident.
(N.O.I.C. Holyhead, 1055A/28.)

White Sea.

Number of Enemy Bombers reported to have flown over entrance to White Sea at 1600C/28.
See Mining.

A/C off Smalls.

S.S. GLAMORGAN COASTS reports enemy plane, thought to be Blohm and Voss seaplane, flew round ship at 1945/25 in position 5 miles South of Smalls and disappeared to Eastward.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1513A/28.)

Flares off Line S.T.

Reference "Chopper" para. 6 (h) FERNIE reports as follows:- While on night patrol a large number of red aircraft flares were dropped eastwards and westwards of line S.T. The nearest being about 3 miles. Each consisted of 3 - 4 red stars followed by a single red star at a short interval of up to a minute. One fast twin-engined aircraft was seen, possibly a Beaufighter or enemy of similar design.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2047A/28.)

Plymouth bombed.

One hostile aircraft dropped a bomb in RALEIGH at about 2200/28.
No naval casualties. Slight damage to Trevol House.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2341/28.)

Mining.

N.L.29.

Intend to carry out operation N.L.29 tonight from position 50° 58' N. 01° 43'54" E.
(V.A. Dover, 1141/A/28).

/Thames.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Thames Estuary. — Two S.A. mines detonated on 27/9 and one on 28/9. Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1145/28.)

White Sea. — Number of enemy bombers reported to have flown over entrance White Sea vicinity Ponoi 066° 57' N. 041° 20' E. at 1600C/28. Mines may have been laid. Admiralty pass to LONDON and ELECTRA.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1754C/28.)

Explosion. — A/P vessel reports deep underwater explosion 7 miles North of Strumble Head.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1839/28.)

Harwich. — One green mine detonated in about 51° 54'56" N. 1° 29'03" E.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1911A/28.)

Humber. — The following mines detonated today at 1510 by L.L. Trawlers 315° 62A Buoy 0.9 miles. (No details.)
(F.O. Humber, 1945A/28.)

Milford Haven. — Mines suspected in following positions:- 051° 32' N. 005° 21' W. 051° 37'30" N. 005° 31' W.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 2155/28.)

MURIELLE. (Steam Trawler.) Sunk. — N.O.I.C. Fleetwood reports MURIELLE exploded mine in trawl 8 to 9 miles S.W. by S. of Morecambe Bay Light Vessel. Vessel was taken in tow but sank in position 3 to 4 miles W. by N. Blackpool Tower at 1620/28. No casualties.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2212A/28.)

Enemy Intelligence.

ADMIRAL SCHEER, HIPPER, LUTZOW. — Photographs show:-
Kiel. At 1455A/27 ADMIRAL SCHEER in lock at Holtenau, HIPPER and LUTZOW in Nos. 5 and 6 dry docks.
Swinemunde. At 1400A/27. No major Naval Units.
(D.D.I.C. 0057A/28.)

/TIRPITZ.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

TIRPITZ. My 1514A/26. It is possible that TIRPITZ is fitted with above water torpedo tubes. Graded B.2.
(N.I.D. I., 1229A/28.)

E-Boats. Two submarines reported in Arnarfiord 1130/28th proceeding North, by Icelandic farmer.
Graded C.3.
(A.C.I.C., 1234/28.)
Cancel my 1234. Now identified as Motor Boats.
(A.C.I.C., 1621/28.)

Ship off Lands End. There are indications of a ship in 050° 17' N. 005° 51' W. at 1855, proceeding south westerly.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2033/28.)

ADMIRAL SCHEER, SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, PRINZ EUGEN. Photographs of Hamburg at 1110/28 show ADMIRAL SCHEER alongside S quay at Blohm and Voss Yard. At Brest 1750/28, all 3 main units present in usual dry docks.
(D.D.I.C. 2256A/28.)

Navigational.

Thames Estuary. Lighting of Sea Reach. F.O.I.C. London 1727A/26. Para. 3.
It is not considered desirable to exhibit lights on Buoys in Sea Reach owing to the increased risk of minelaying in this area. It is generally desirable to reduce all lighting in the Thames and Thames Estuary to the absolute minimum to avoid the risk of accurate minelaying in the Channels as much as possible.
2. If the Sea Reach becomes heavily mined it may well entail closing the Port of London to traffic indefinitely.
(C. in C. Nore, 1006A/28.)

Casualties and Defects.

M.L.1011. (? M.L.1022) fired on. In about 053° 03' N. 001° 30' E. at 2216/27 N.T.B. SLEIPNER challenged a small craft which failed to reply. At 2226 SLEIPNER fired. Ceased fire at 2228 when craft signalled M.L.1011. Went alongside found C.O. wounded and M.L. slightly damaged. Sent our Sick Berth Attendant on board and ordered M.L. to proceed to Yarmouth.
(SLEIPNER, 0059/28.)

/SOUTHDOWN.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 28.9.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

SOUTHDOWN & SHEARWATER damaged.	SOUTHDOWN was in collision with SHEARWATER at 2327/27 near Sheringham buoy. Damage sustained as follows. Details. (SOUTHDOWN, 0345A/28.)
TORY ISLAND (Grounded 27/9.)	My 2310/27. (IRON AXE) sailed. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0924/28.)
DELIUS.	Master reports striking unknown object in 55° 44' N. 8° 10' W. at 2200A/26. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1015A/28.)
TEDDINGTON. (Damaged by E-Boat 15/9.)	Departure tugs NESSUS and RICHARD LEE BARBER at 1440A for TEDDINGTON. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1525A/28.)
Four T.L.C's.	My 1625/28. Sailing cancelled owing to engine defects in all four T.L.C's. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1824/28.)

Shipping and Convoys.

O.G.75.	Sailed minesweeping trawler BURKE as additional escort to convoy O.G.75 on 28/9 in accordance with A.M. 1823 July 17. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0714A/28.)
S.L.86.	Warmest congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. your convoy S.L.86. (C. in C. W.A., 0958A/28 to Commodore Boddam Whitham.)
O.N.17. STEAUA ROMANA, GRAINTON.	Following from BULLDOG received 23/9. Begins: O.N.17. STEAUA ROMANA returned to U.K. with engine trouble on 19/9. GRAINTON on 20/9. 1905/22. Ends. Have you any news of STEAUA ROMANA. (D.T.D., 1431A/28 to C. in C. W.A.) Request any available information as to movements of STEAUA ROMANA. Sailed in O.N.17, reported returned with engine trouble. (C. in C. W.A., 1532A/28 to N.C.S.O's.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

D.S. 12 B. CASTLETON and CHARLESTON detailed.
(R.A.M., 1818/28.)

W.S.12.
C.M. 3. Orders for Escorts.
(C. in C. W.A., 1821A/27.)
See Lion Copy.

Convoy
Q.P. LONDON, ELECTRA, ACTIVE, 73rd A/S group sail 1200C/28. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles and S.B.N.O. Murmansk.
(LONDON, 2315C/27.)

H.X.149. Arrived complete. 55 ships of which 36 British, 18 Allied, 1 Neutral. 27 were Tankers and 15 general cargoes.
(D.S. 754 of 28/9.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Convoy W.S. 12. — STANLEY and BRADFORD are remaining with convoy until relieved in vicinity of Azores by 2 destroyers detailed by you in accordance with Admiralty's 1245A/20.
(C. in C. W.A., 1015A/28 to S.O. Force H).

TRUANT, THORN. — Your escort will be COWSLIP. Trawler ALOUETTE on patrol off Cadiz will keep 20 miles North of THORN's track. (F.O.C.N.A., 1110A/28 to TRUANT, THORN)

ST. DAY. — Proceed position 037° 20' N., 003° 10' E. (F.O.C.N.A., 1157A/28 to Fleet Tug ST. DAY).

P.31 — (i) Intend P.31 to pass position 043° 00' N., 010° 40' W., at 0200A/8/10 proceeding thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. to Gibraltar. P.31 is painted dark blue with no letter or numbers on conning tower. (Capt. S.9. 1217A/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Gibraltar, 1 - man submarine attack 20/9. — Your 0910A/20 and subsequent signals. It appears that the enemy attacking craft successfully penetrated the boom defences. Is this so?
2. The following additional information is also urgently required.
(1) How was the attack first detected?
(2) At what time do you consider the attacking craft actually entered the harbour?
(3) Is there no further evidence concerning the nature of the attacking craft?
(4) What was the state of the weather and light?
(5) What was the state of the gates during the hours of darkness preceding the attack?
(6) What precautions, including patrols, were in force at the time of the explosions and during the preceding night?
(7) Are there any further points of interest?
3. Your proposals are also requested on any immediate measures that could be taken to increase the security of the harbour.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1218A/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Balloons. — Request latest instructions as to when kites and balloons are to be flown by merchant ships (A) in convoy (B) independently.
(V.A.C.N.A., 1249A/28 to Admty).

DURHAM. — Request report by signal of extent of damage to DURHAM. (D.O.D. (F) 1800A/28 to A.S. Gibraltar).

MARON. — Remain in company with escort until receipt of signal for LADY SHIRLEY.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1857A/28 to MARON).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

B.D.V.s	Departure 1200/27 B.D.V.'s BARMILL, TEAL, JAN DE WAELE, PRINCE DE LIEGE. E.T.A. Freetown A.M./30. Secret reference position "Daisy" 009° N., 016° W. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 0901N/28 to C. in C. S.A.)
DERBYSHIRE.	E.T.A. 0900B/30 draft 24 feet, requirements. (DERBYSHIRE, 0915B/28 to N.O.I.C. Capetown).
REVENGE.	Durban arrivals 28/9. 1. REVENGE escorting SELANDIA, 2. R.F.A. OLCADES. (N.L.O. Durban, 0954Z/28 to Admty).
DORSETSHIRE, EAGLE.	Departure St. Helena 1000/28 DORSETSHIRE, EAGLE operations. (General, St. Helena, 1005/28 to Admty etc).
ALCANTARA, BIRMINGHAM, BULOLO.	C. in C. S.A.'s 1055/26 ALCANTARA E.T.A. Tristan da Cunha 1200Z/5 with 30% fuel remaining. BIRMINGHAM fuels in Plate 30/9 then proceeds K.32 to meet corvette. Intends subsequently to sweep through calm area round Trinidada Island vide Chart Y 190 and return to F.O. to meet BULOLO on her arrival from Capetown. BULOLO to report E.T.A at F.O. when known. (R.A.S.A.D., 1521Z/28 to C. in C. S.A.) Concur. (C. in C. S.A., 1045N/29).
VANJA, SANDAR.	Tankers VANJA, SANDAR escorted by SENNEN, TOTLAND sailed from Freetown A.M./28. E.T.A. Gibraltar 0630/10/(?)10). (C. in C. S.A., 1845N/28 to ? F.O.C.N.A.)
DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.	Proceed through I 34 C to J 34 A and operate in Northern half of that Area. Supply ship and possible S/Ms may be met. (C. in C. S.A., 2033N/28 to DUNNOTTAR CASTLE).
MARCELLA, suspicious ship.	Master of British MARCELLA reports at 0330 G.M.T./ 22 in 20° 38° W he sighted German built vessel heading south which he considered suspicious. (Description) MARCELLA altered two points to port and at daybreak other vessel was astern. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2128Z/28 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" and Movements of Enemy Fleet.

IMPERIAL STAR.

My 2110/27 IMPERIAL STAR in tow for 2 hours without making headway. After consulting Master and N.L.O. and in view of damage sustained nature of cargo and proximity to enemy coast remaining markings (corrupt grp) were removed and scuttle charge fired. Ship was then bombarded for 30 minutes and around 0445 heavily on fire in position 37° 31' N., 10° ? 46' E. In view of important cargo and liability of refrigerating hull to remain floating Master requests that her sinking may be confirmed. Am returning via convoy route, speed 32 knots, E.T.A. position X 0710. (ORIBI, 0530B/28 to C.S.10).

Enemy Forces.

No enemy surface forces to northward or southward of your track. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 0755B/28 amended 0815B/28 to C.S. 10, C.S.18).

Arrival at Malta.

Leading Warship sighted from Gozo Convoy 45 miles N.W. No news yet of IMPERIAL STAR.
(V.A. Malta, 0845B/28 to S.O. Force H).
Cruiser(s) entered Harbour 1120B.
(V.A. Malta, 1126B/28 to S.O. Force H).

Enemy Fleet.

P.C. and S. of enemy battlefleet, 2 battleships, 5 cruisers, 13 destroyers, 38.50 N., 10.42 E., 195° 15 knots. (A/C using call sign 8H3H, 0940B/28)
(Capt. S.10 1005B/28 to 10th S/M F., 0.21)
My 0940. Enemy has altered course to approx. 120°. (A/C using call sign 8 HSH, 1000/28).
My 0940. Enemy has altered course to 050° approx. (A/C using call sign 8 HSH, 1015B/28).

NELSON, (torpedoed 27/9).

Following from S.O. Force H. NELSON struck by torpedo starboard side, compartments 43 to 80 Flooded to waterline. Trim increased 6 feet. Speed 14 knots. Turret machinery not affected. (C.S.10 1043B/28 to Admty).
NELSON parts company at dusk and returns to Gibraltar screened by 3 destroyers E.T.A. 1000/30. Request Catalina A/S air patrol proceed direct, my P.C. and S. are at (?0800)B/29 037° 07' N., (? 027°) 35' E., 250° 13. Remainder of group A, under V.A.2, R/V with Force X, A.M./29.
(S.O. Force H., 1737B/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/V.A. Malta's.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" and Movements of Enemy Fleet.

NELSON (torpedoed 27/9). Contd.	V.A. Malta's 2230/28. (re:- NELSON returns to Gibraltar. Request Catalina A/S Patrol proceed to position given. N.T. in W.D.) Am interpreting this as 29th unless correction is made. (F.O.C.N.A. 2347A/28 to V.A. Malta). W.R. Note:- This refers to "B.29" in message 1737/28.
Diversion by 1st B.S. and 7th C.S.	Arrivals 27/9 C. in C. Med., QUEEN ELIZABETH, BARHAM, VALIANT, NEPTUNE, AJAX, LATONA, KIMBERLEY, HASTY, JACKAL, HOBART, NAPIER, KIPLING, JERVIS, VENDETTA, KINGSTON, HERO, DECOY, HOTSPUR. (S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1047/28).
ORIBI.	E.T.A. 1230. (ORIBI, 1100B/28 to V.A. Malta).
Air Intelligence.	From R.A.F. Malta I.152, 27/9. Cagliari Harbour 0745 (photographed), no important change. Elmas Aerodrome, 25 Bombers, 20 seaplanes. Taranto 0700 (photographed) 3 CAVOUR Battleships, 1 8 inch Cruiser and 7 Destroyers left since (group omitted) September. Lecoe Aerodrome, 20 - 25 Aircraft. Naples, 0800, shows 2 LITTORIO Battleships and 7 Destroyers left since 26/9. Messina 0900, no significant change visible, 1 M.V. on fire 340° Point Del Fara 30 miles: continuous line of patrol (? in vicinity) and seagoing and A/S Patrols covering Convoy. Marsala, 11 seaplanes G.M. Borizzo 12 A.M.C.'s 1 Breda 88, 1 Fighter. (F.O.C.N.A., 1110A/28 to S.O. Force H).
Enemy Fleet.	P.C. and S. of enemy, 2 Battleships, 5 Cruisers, 14 Destroyers, 39.04 N., 10.52 E., 30° 16, 1220 (A/C 8 H3B, 1120/28 to Med., Stn). P.C. and S. of 2 enemy Battleships, 5 Cruisers, 14 Destroyers, 38.40 N., 10.50 E., Course 295° 18 knots. (A/C using call sign 8H3G 1240/28 to Med. Stn.) (Capt. S.10 1345B/28 to 10th S.F.)
Force X.	Force X and convoy clean run after T/B attack on IMPERIAL STAR. (V.A. Malta, 1311B/28 to S.O. Force H). M.I.F. 44 Enemy course is 303. (A/C 8 H3G 1320/28).

/2 Cruisers,.....

MOST SECRET.

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28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" and Movements of Enemy Fleet.

Force X. Contd.

2 Cruisers, 3 destroyers, my position 140° 30 miles from Cape Carbonaro course 090°. (A/C 8 HSC 1350/28).
2 Battleships, 6 destroyers, my position 135° 4 miles from Cape Carbonaro course 075° (A/C 8 HSC 1355/28).
3 Cruisers, 4 destroyers, bearing 135° 25 miles from Cape Carbonaro steering 0° speed 10 knots. (A/C 8HSC, 1355/28).
My Nr. one ENKU Nr. 3 2 battleships 6 destroyers 075, 2 cruisers 6 destroyers 075, 3 cruisers 4 destroyers 010.
(A/C 8 HSC, 1530/28).

Air Shadowing.

Owing to defects of shadower line (Alternative signification "carrying out") patrol aircraft has been ordered to take over shadowing duty. (V.A. Malta, 1622B/28 to S.O. Force H).

FARNDALE, HEYTHROP. Force X.

Pass through position "AA" at 0630B/29 S. of A from "AA" to "BB" 20 knots. Remainder of force X passes through position "AA" 0845B/29, S. of A "AA" to "BB" 25 knots. All of force X shift to Gibraltar broadcast at 0630B.
(C.S.10 1644B/28 to S.O. Force H).

Destroyers.

2 destroyers bearing 180° position 36.43 N., 13.36 E. (A/C 9 F.T.P., 1707/28).

Convoy "Major".

Following received from Malta W/T begins:-
Enemy A/C bombing "Major" 37.20 N., 7.30 E., (Nore W/T 1730/28 to Whitehall)
The following has been read.
From "Major". Now all right T.O.R. 1818.
(Malta, W/T 1728/28).

Enemy Forces.

Enemy probably returning to harbour, battleships to Naples cruisers to Messina. Enemy's approx. P.C. and S. at 1530B/28 was 039° 07' N., 010° 18' E., 075° 20. URGE move to 038° 31' N., 013° 25' E., remainder maintain present dispositions. (Capt. S.10 1820B/28 to 10 S/M Flot.)

Following has been read. 12 Tomahawks are being sent to the assistance of "Wet" E.T.A. 0630/29 (M.S.G. via Malta W/T 1830/28).

/0.21.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.9.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" & Movements of Enemy Fleet-Ctd.

O.21. Admiralty 1504A/28. Dutch submarine O.21 can proceed at 15½ knots while charging.
(Capt. S.8., 1833A/28 to Capt. S.10) W.R. Note. Reference apparently corrupt. Admiralty 1504/28 is Hush and does not refer.
Your 1833A/28. All enemy reports have been passed to O.21 who was well placed. Consider interception now impossible. (Capt. S.10 2057B/28 to Capt. S.8).
Proceed Northwards towards Maddalena with all despatch. Orders follow.
(Capt. S.10,2158B/28 to O.21)
Cancel my 2158B/28. Proceed with execution of previous orders. (Capt. S.10 2255B/28 to O.21)

IMPERIAL STAR. "Halberd" convoy less IMPERIAL STAR arrived safely 2. Force X sailed 1830 as given in C.S.10's 1644B/28, not to C. in C. Med., or Admty.
3. IMPERIAL STAR immobilised by torpedo in 037° 31' N., 010° 46' E., at (?2100/27) Scuttling charges fired and ship left on fire. No casualties. (V.A. Malta, 1842B/28 to Admty).

Malta Air Report. Day 28/9 Marylands Blenheims fighter Blenheim Beaufighters and Fulmars R/C on escort and anti-submarine duties for convoy between 0935 to 1055 hours. Enemy Fleet first sighted 39° 04' N., 10° 32' E., course 300° speed 16 knots at 1020 hours last sighted at 1153 hours on same course and same speed. 2 E-boats sighted at 1200 hours South Cape Marco steering East at 10 knots.
Air escort to enemy fleet, 4 singledengine seaplanes 500 feet.
2 Fighter Blenheims on E-boat patrol 0440 hrs. attacked 1 of 2 E. boats 1010 hrs 3 miles East of Pantellaria Harbour. 2 of crew believed killed and others wounded. Aircraft driven off by A.A. fire from shore. Night 27/28. Wellington operation cancelled due bad weather.
(H.Q. Malta, 1945/28 amended 1509/29).

Movements. Arrived and departed 28/9. EURYALUS, KENYA, HERMIONE, EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD, HEYTHROP, FARNDALE, ZULU, LIGHTINING, COSSACK, LAFOREY, ORIBI. Departed PROTEUS.
(V.A. Malta, 2013B/28 to Admty)
My 2013B/28. Arrived 28/9. BRECONSHIRE.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 0831B/29).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.9.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" & Movements of Enemy Fleet-Ctd.

Enemy position.	Enemy mean position and speed at 1800, 095° Carbonara Cape 72 miles, 15 knots, 2 Battleships 6 destroyers, Course 60° 3 Cruisers, 2 destroyers Course 10°. Aircraft report on landing. (V.A. Malta, 2052B/28 to S.O. Force H). P.C. and S. enemy battle fleet 039° 03' 010° 17' 065° 15 knots at 1800B/28. (Capt. S.10 2054B/28 to 10 S/M Flot).
Air Operations.	Air attacks today-. (1) Comiso 3 times by Hurricanes. 2 Aircraft set on fire. Office Buildings and other Aircraft damaged. Opposition ineffective. (2) 2 Torpedo Boats off San Marco Eastbound and 1 of 2 E-boats 3 miles N.E. Pantellaria Harbour by Beaufighters. Probable casualties. No damage seen. (V.A. Malta, 2210B/28 to S.O. Force H)

MOST SECRET.

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28.9.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

General.

LE PROGRES. Panamanian tanker, 511 tons, laid up at Istanbul, reported sold to a pro-German Swiss Company. (D.S. 784.)

Malta Raid. Night 26/27. 1 enemy raider bombs in sea did not cross coast. 2 night fighters up, no illuminations or interceptions. (H.Q. Malta 0025/28.)

TRIUMPH. Your 1852B/27 acknowledged. Well done. Proceed through 034° 38' 021° 44' thence direct arriving Alexandria Submarine Sanctuary 0530B/3. Capt. S.1. 0108/28 to TRIUMPH.)

Palermo bombed and mined. Night 26/27 Sept. 1 Wellington attacked Palermo Aerodrome causing diversion for Swordfish. Time over target 1925 to 2000 hrs. 2284 lbs. bombs dropped. Opposition slight. 5 Swordfish laid mines S.E. approach Palermo Harbour. Bombs dropped on Railway track and warehouse Agrigento starting fire. Wellington diversion successful.

Marsala attacked. Day 27/9. 2 Beaufighters 272 Squadron attacked Marsala seaplane base at 0630 hrs. 7 seaplanes and buildings damaged by cannon and M/G fire. 2 Beaufighters same Squadron attacked Borizzo Aerodrome. 10 Aircraft seriously damaged. (H.Q. Malta, 0131/28.)

Enemy A/C. 20 Enemy Aircraft position 000 32° N., 26° E. (ROMAN 0815/28 to Alexandria.)

PROTEUS. Your 1845B/26 PROTEUS leaves 035° 51' 015° 15', about 2300B/28 direct for 038° 16' 020° 00' arriving p.m./30. Request you signal her direct any other information about her area than is given in S.W.I.M. (Capt. S.10, 0925B/28 to Capt. S.1.)

Enemy Convoy. Slow convoy of small ships with one escort due in 032° 05' 020° 02' at 0600B/1 from Cape Misurata Area. 2 Merchant ships may arrive same day. (Capt. S.1, 1015B/28 to PERSEUS.) Date amended, see 1731/29.

/S/M Operations

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

S/M Operations, Aegean. Request any information as to recent if any, successes of our submarines in Aegean. I would like to pass this on to Russians to emphasize their apparent lack of success in their (?eastern) patrol. (Adm. Miles, 1051C/28 to Admty.)

Benghazi, Bardia bombed. Night 26/27, 6 Wellingtons attacked shipping and harbour installations at Benghazi, results unobserved.
Day 27/9, morning, 9 Marylands bombed M.T. concentration and camp near Mersa Luka.
9 Marylands bombed dumps near Bardia.
Afternoon 9 Marylands escorted by 20 Tomahawks attacked ship 250 feet long unloading in Bardia located by morning air R/C. 12 250 lb.bombs fell near ship, 24 bombs among warehouses and A.A. gun positions.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1141/28.)

COVENTRY. S.O.S.E.F's 1646/27. (N.T. in W.R.) In view of delay and importance of cruising Indian Ocean as early as possible in October is there any need for COVENTRY to return to Alexandria provided parts of bow can be delivered to Suez for embarkation? (C. in C. Med. 1152B/28 to COVENTRY.)
Your 1152B/28. Not essential but number of administrative details accumulated during 2 months absence make return to Alexandria desirable. In view of tender conditions of COVENTRY bow which has again opened up, considered desirable to make passage as late in Oct. as possible when N.E. monsoon has set in and tropical cyclones are less frequent.
(COVENTRY 2218B/28 to C. in C. Med.)

NAPIER, JACKAL. My 1823B/27. On arrival of NAPIER and JACKAL at Port Said request you arrange transit Canal to Suez. These ships will then be at your disposal for escort work in Red Sea.
(C. in C. Med. 1154C/28 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal.)

A/C attack. Enemy aircraft bombing, my position 139, 32° N. 26° E. 28. (2 LKS (indecipherable) 1559/28 to HIBERNIA, S.O. Group 8, ALBERNI.)

/Corinth

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Corinth Canal. KING GEORGE I.	(1) After raid on Corinth Canal 29/8 traffic recommenced 7/9.B.2. (2) Greek destroyer KING GEORGE I now in dock in Greece will be ready for service early November. Will be manned by Germans. A.1. This time average of six Italian destroyers always berthed stern to Miaouli Quay South of timber and grain wharf. Plan 14 C.B.1806. A.1 (N.A. Angora 1246/28.) Comment by N.I.D. Para.1 is believed to be correct although only comparatively shallow draught vessels were able to transit the Canal by 7/9. Re. para.2, this destroyer was damaged by a bomb in April last and, as repairs were not completed when Greece was evacuated the ship was sunk. It was since reliably reported that the ship was salved in June and a further report in August stated that she would be commissioned in Sept. The report that she will be manned by the Germans seems very likely. The latter may be dissatisfied with the Italian Naval Escorts provided for the convoys to Tripoli. The singly sailing ships to Benghazi are frequently escorted by one destroyer or T/B only, and the Germans may well contemplate using this destroyer for such a purpose in future.
S/M Procedure.	Cancel my 1445/10. Submarines normal proceedings submerge by day when east longitude 007° E. but if operational or other circumstances demand they are at liberty to proceed on the surface as required. This in no way alters instructions regarding safety route operational and base sanctuary as given in operation B.S. or instructions in Recognition Manual chapter 4. (Capt. S.1. 1831B/28 to Med. Fleet.)
TETRARCH. TRIUMPH.	My 1651B/27. After passing position 034° 14' 024° 00' proceed through position 032° 16' 028° 34' thence direct to arrive Sanctuary 0530B/3. TRIUMPH is routed through position 034° 38' 021° 44' thence direct to Alexandria to arrive same time and date. (Capt. S.1. 1835B/28 to TETRARCH.)
OSIRIS, GLAUCOS.	OSIRIS expected from North West and Gr. S/M GLAUCOS from Port Said a.m./30. (Capt. S.1. 1841B/28 to OSIRIS, GLAUCOS.)

/Crews

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Crews of French Ships at Alexandria.

Since my 1004/8 Admiral Godefroy has written withdrawing his request consequent on my statement that I could not agree to (?sending) out reliefs. No further action therefore appears necessary. (C. in C. Med. 2054B/28 to Adty.)

Petrol in S/Ms.

In view of risks entailed in the case of leakage inboard, petrol should not be carried in internal oil fuel tanks of submarines on passage to Malta except in case of emergency. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2131A/28 to C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.)

PORPOISE.

PORPOISE expected to leave U.K. 2/10. (F.O.S., 2311A/28 to C. in C. Med. etc.)

HYACINTH U/B contact.

Attacking contact in 032° 19' 034° 17'. Previous to this evening 2 underwater detonations heard to the eastward. (HYACINTH 2205B/28 to C. in C. Med.)
Made 2 attacks. Contact lost am searching Area. (HYACINTH 2358B/28.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies

Persian Gulf Area.	Chiefs of Staff No.173. (1st S.L. 0118A/28, 0119A/28 to C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.
REWAK (interception)	Your 0658/20, my 0714/21 and Admty. 2114/26 are being passed to you. Request you will reply Admiralty repeated C. in C. E.I., M.E. Intelligence Centre. (C. in C. E.I., 0616Z/28 to S.N.O. R.S.)
Bandar Shapur, facilities.	S.N.O.P.G. 0702/3/9. Following additional information received from A.I.O.C. (C. in C. E.I., 1256Z/28 to Admty.)
HOHENFELS (German)	HOHENFELS successfully floated and berthed on KANIMBLA. (KANIMBLA 1430Z/28 to S.N.O.P.G.)

China.

Russian Far Eastern Fleet.	C. in C. Far East 165/5 cypher 25/9 to W.O. At the instigation of the J.I.C., Admiral Miles has been invited to approach Russian C.N.S. with proposal that a British N.O. should be attached to the Russian Far Eastern Fleet as minesweeping instructional officer. Lt. Cdr. Powell, a minesweeping specialist, and an interpreter, are already on their way to Moscow to carry out this duty once the Soviet authorities have agreed. Decided that, until the Russians have agreed to this proposal no action should be taken by War Office and Air Ministry regarding a Mission in the Far East. No reply from the Russians has yet been received to our suggestion. (D.D.N.I.(F) 1150A/28 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.9.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

ORINOCO. Press report of 26/9 states bomb discovered on 25/9 in German ORINOCO, 9660 tons, seized by Mexico on 1/4 and now in Mexican service under the name PUEBLA FORTUNATUS. Bomb was hidden in the machinery. (D.S., 754.)

AUSONIA. Leave Bermuda a.m./29 and proceed by most direct route to Halifax, so as to arrive 1/10. (C. in C. A.W.I. 10120/28 to AUSONIA.)

Heavy U.S. Forces. Our opinion now is that the immediate threat of a break-out into the Atlantic by enemy surface forces no longer exists.
2. We should, however, welcome the presence of heavy U.S. forces working as at present in close co-operation with our Home Fleet until 5/10. (1st S.L. 1136A/28 to Opnav.)

EVEROJA, EMPIRE MOON. Returned from Convoy S.C.46 EVEROJA collision, EMPIRE MOON collision. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. 1556Z/28.)

HARBOE JENSEN. Your 1515A/23 to N.C.S.O. New York. Under all possible pressure HARBOE JENSEN cannot finish drydocking before 9th or 10/10. Expected to leave New York about 14/10 degaussed, with 3 inch L.A. and 4 Oerlikon A.A. machine guns mounted in New York. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1631Z/28 to D. of S.T.)

CHEVREUIL. CAP DES PALMES A.T. 1711A/18 and 1814A/21. F.F.S. CHEVREUIL and F.F.S. CAP DES PALMES left Balboa on 23/9 and 27/9 respectively. Please inform High Commissioner. (D.O.D.(F) 1743A/28 to LE TRIOMPHANT.)

WOLFE, MALOJA. Your 1832Q/26 and R.A.3's 1244P/27. WOLFE and MALOJA are to be fitted as troop transports at Southampton. They should be sailed to U.K. at first opportunity. Request you will consider including them in T.C.14 if they can maintain 16 knots. (D.O.D.(H) 1820A/28 to C. in C. A.W.I.) Reply 0922/29.

N.E.F. Admty. 0116A/27 and my 1723A/25. Intend following destroyers and corvettes should remain with N.E.F. :-
(a) Destroyers. BURWELL, BROADWAY, BARNHAM, RAMSEY, READING.
(b) Corvettes. DIANTHUS, GLADIOLUS, CANDYTUFT, PRIMROSE, NASTURTIUM, POLYANTHUS, CELANDINE.
(C. in C. W.A. 1858A/28 to C.N.S., Canada, C.C.N.F.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

H.X.152. Halifax arrival ST. FRANCIS. Departure ANNAPOLIS, local escort H.X.152. (S.O.I. Halifax, 2325Z/28 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

U.S.12 B. SYDNEY escorting U.S.12 B. left Fremantle 0300/28. (D.O.R. 29/9.)

Enemy Unit. D/F bearings at 0518 G.M.T. indicate German surface vessel in area within 300 miles of 40° S. 155° W. (D.D.I.C. 1850A/28 to N.Z.N.B etc.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

28.9.1941.
Sunday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

LEVIS (torpedoed 19/9)

Loss announced in Canada 28/9. 17 Canadian seamen and 1 R.N. lost. No officers lost. LEVIS is first corvette built in Canada and manned by Canadians to be sunk. (The Times, 29.9.1941.)

SILVERBELLE (torpedoed 22/9)

SILVERBELLE can be saved if tug sent immediately COMMANDANT DUBOC can tow slowly if protected by further escort provided, 026° 34' N., 024° 02' W. Reply urgently required or COMMANDANT DUBOC must leave Monday necessitating scuttling.
(SILVERBELLE, 0200/28 to Admty.)
Your 0200/28 SILVERBELLE is not to be scuttled on any account. Assistance being sent.
(D.T.D. 1550Z/28 to G.B.M.S.I. SILVERBELLE)
COMMANDANT DUBOC towing SILVERBELLE in 26° 34' N., 24° 02' W. at 0200/28 reports she will have to leave tow 29/9. Request you will detach LADY SHIRLEY or ERIN to take over tow and obtain tug from Las Palmas as soon as possible. If necessary as a first step ship should be towed to Canaries.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1701A/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Arrangements are being made to send assistance to SS SILVERBELLE. She is not to be scuttled. Tow towards Las Palmas.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1702A/28 to COMMANDANT DUBOC)
Following for LADY SHIRLEY (begins) Proceed independently to take over towing of SILVERBELLE from French Sloop COMMANDANT DUBOC reported in 026° 34' N., 024° 02' W. at 0200A/28 proceeding towards Las Palmas. Endeavour to tow SILVERBELLE towards Las Palmas. Tug is being asked for. Escort SILVERBELLE to Las Palmas and fuel there. SILVERBELLE is not to be scuttled. (Ends.) ERIN proceed in execution of previous orders. MARON acknowledge forthwith.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1904A/28 to MARON)

H.G. 73 (attacked 26/9)

Am proceeding according your 0046A/27 ZWARTE ZEE in company. Have you further information of torpedoed ship and is an escort standing by? My position 0800A 051° 01' N., 010° 27' W. course 250°. S. of A. 11.5 knots.
(LEITH, 0915A/28 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 0915A/28 No further information. No escort standing by. A/C will co-operate weather permitting.
(C. in C. W.A., 1307A/28.)

/MARGARETA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

28.9.1941.
Sunday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked-Contd.

MARGARETA
SPRINGBANK
(H.G. 73.)

Convoy attacked once last night. MARARITA (?MARGARETA) sunk. Crew in HIBISCUS. In view of large number of survivors in corvettes intend unless otherwise ordered to send all ships for Oban, Clyde, and Belfast to Milford Haven for onward routeing. W.A.C.I. 202, consider attack on SPRINGBANK deliberate and probably from short range approximately 290 survivors accounted for. Weather. (FOWEY, 0959A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
MARGARETA, British, 3103 tons, Gibraltar to Glasgow with general cargo and scrap.
(D.S. 755.)
Your 1953/26.
(A) Position of escorts during night of 25/26 N.E. 7. with GENTIAN and STONECROP in additional positions one mile on beam of rear ships of escort. HIGHLANDER having carried out sweep astern and investigated good D/F bearing of U-Boat was at time of attack passing up starboard side of convoy to regain position 3 miles ahead on R.D.F. screen.
(B) When she left Gibraltar HIGHLANDER considered that she could remain with the convoy until a.m./27. Higher expenditure of oil during attacks and re routeing of convoy forced her to leave at 0800/26.
She reached Lough Foyle with 26 tons on board, 12 of which were unusable.
(Capt. D. Londonderry, 1801A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)

TRINIDAD

Ten survivors landed Oporto from Panama motor vessel TRINIDAD sunk 380 miles N.W. Cape Finisterre by gun fire by German submarine.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1229/28 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

2218Z/27

D/F bearing 2218Z/27 indicates raider in approx. 015° S., 088° W. or antipodal. Request Adty. remarks.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0454Z/28 to B.A.D.)
Your 0454Z/28. Transmission was from U-Boat in approx. 5° N. 35° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1240A/28 to C.O.I.S. Singapore)

0742A

D/F Bearings indicate that Convoy H.G. 73 was again reported by a U-Boat at 0742A/28.
(D.D.I.C. 0911A/28 to FOWEY, BEGONIA, JASMINE, LARKSPUR, WOLVERINE.)

/(?time).....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

28.9.1941.
Sunday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported-Contd.

(? time) S/M sighted by aircraft crash diving in 50° 29'N. 34° 15' W.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1115Z/28 to Admty.)

Estimated U-Boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1406A/28)

1430C By D/F at 1430C/28 U-Boat in 069° 09' N., (?043°) 14' E. Admiralty pass to ELECTRA and LONDON.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1625C/28 to Admty.)

1615 Proceed forthwith to attack U-Boat reported/5 miles west of Trevose Head at 1615/28.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1634/28 to BROCKLESBY, KUJAWIAK)
My 1634. Available M/L's to proceed forthwith to patrol between 10 and 30 miles 330° from Sevenstones.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1640/28 to F.O.I.C. Falmouth)
My 1634. U-Boat first sighted from shore was steering S.W. Later reported to have dived in position given.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1648/28 to BROCKLESBY, KUJAWIAK)
Detail one M.L. to carry anti-submarine sweep alongside A.M. Q.Z.S. 292 from Hartland Point to Trevose Head and return. U-Boat sighted off Trevose Head at 1520.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1902/28 to N.O.I.C. Appledore)

1457 G.M.T. D/F bearings indicate that H.G. 73 was again reported by a U-Boat at 1457 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1652A/28 to FOWEY, BEGONIA, JASMINE, LARKSPUR, WOLVERINE, etc.)

0357A At 0357A/28 M.L. 168 sighted submarine on surface Eastbound 7 miles south of Carnero Point. Subsequent hunt by Patrol assisted by aircraft during 28/9 has failed to establish contact.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1922A/28 to Admty.)

1945 G.M.T. By D/F at 1945 G.M.T. U-Boat in Area 58° 30' N., to 59° 20' N., 6° W. to 7° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 2157A/28)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

28.9.1941.
Sunday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Attacked.

By HYACINTH — See Mediterranean, 2205/28.

Am over enemy submarine in 50.45 N., 14.15 W.
Sighted on surface and observed to submerge.
Have attacked enemy with depth charges, estimate no hits.
(A/C call sign 6.G.P.W. 1740/28 to 15 Group)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Spanish North African Trade.

M.E.W. is considering instituting ship Navicert system for all shipments from Spanish Morocco to the mainland unless guarantee against transhipment to the enemy is forthcoming. The Admiralty have asked F.O.C.N.A. whether he could intercept the ships with the forces at present at his disposition, should the trade continue without navicerts.

South Atlantic.

A Sunderland returning from convoy escort carried out an R/C over Dakar in error today and was attacked by 4 Vichy French fighters. Another Sunderland joined in and 1 French fighter was destroyed and the other 3 damaged.

Mediterranean.

30 aircraft of Bomber Command bombed Genoa last night.

Libya & Western Desert.

Aircraft continued the attack last night on the enemy ship at Bardia, and claim eventually to have obtained 2 hits and one further probable. 19 Marylands were despatched today with strong fighter escort, to make further attacks.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In a communique issued at midnight 28/29 Sept. the Russians claim to have sunk in the Baltic a cruiser of the KOLN class and 2 torpedo boats.

British Air Operations.

30 aircraft of Bomber Command bombed Genoa last night.
A minor attack was made on Emden, Binnen, Hafen.

Enemy Air Operations.

A few bombs were dropped at Aberdeen this evening. No naval damage or casualties were caused.

Convoy F.N.25 reported being bombed at 1930 in 52° 39' N. 2° 9' E. No reports of any damage has been received.

Mining.

Enemy aircraft are believed to have laid mines off Milford Haven last night.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Four A/S Drifters for Iceland.

Your 1237A/28. These drifters may revert to normal operational notice. (A.C.N.S.H. 1238A/29 to A.C.O.S.).

Re-fitting period of Auxiliary A/S Craft.

Request consideration may be given to extend the period of refit of auxiliary A/S craft to two months under which time vessel will not be required to pay off. C.A.F.O. 1903/40 refers. There is at present an undesirable loss of operating time due to the requirement of a fresh working up period at Tobermory. (C. in C. W.A. 1551A/29).

BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN.

Admiralty 1115A/27/9, 2119A/28/9 and C. in C. Rosyth 2355/27/9. If so desired BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN can be made available to relieve CONQUEROR at the Tyne. Her armament is as follows. (C. in C. Nore 1632A/29).

Finnish Ships on approved voyages.

Finnish Ships engaged in voyages recommended by the U.S. Maritime Commission are not to be seized. They will fly the International Code Flag, 3rd substitute, as symbol of Commission's approval.
2. Approved voyages are in general.
(a) From any neutral country to the U.S.A.
(b) From the U.S.A. to a British Commonwealth port;
(c) In an exceptional case when specially requested by Maritime Commission from a U.S.A. port in a round voyage to another Western Hemisphere port and back.
3. C.A.F.O. is being issued. (Hd. of M., 1633A/29 to C's in C.)

ATHENE.

A.M. 1713A/22 para. 3. Concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1909A/29).

SUPERMAN. SEAMAN. for Gibraltar.

Tug SUPERMAN is to be sailed for Gibraltar as convenient in O.G. Convoy. Tug SEAMAN is to be similarly sailed for Gibraltar on completion of repairs and short shake down. These tugs will be based at Gibraltar for Ocean Rescue work in F.O.C.N.A's command. (A.C.N.S. F. 2321A/29).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Destroyer movements. Hvalfjord 28th arrival 1000 EBERLE, DALLAS, ELLIS, UPSHUR ERICSSON. Reykjavik 28 arrival 1630 ERICSSON, 29 arrival 1000 (?PENELOPE or LAWRENCE). (A.C.I.C. 1031/29).
JONES, BENSON, WINSLOW, NIBLACK, JAMES (?left) 0900/29 for O.N.20. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1848/28).

Co-operation with Russia.

Murmansk. Port facilities. Your 2231A/27. See M.E.W. Telegram 408 to Moscow and Ambassador's replies numbers 376 and 377. (Ad. Miles 0949C/29 to Adty.)

KOLN-class Cruiser sunk. Kivguetsov states that the cruiser they claim to have sunk was off Oesel Island and was one of the KOLN Class. He was not hopeful of holding Oesel Island and when asked about Leningrad said "One should not be too optimistic". (Ad. Miles 1601C/29 to Adty.)

Movements.

PORPOISE. (i) Intend to sail PORPOISE escorted by WHITE BEAR at 0900A/2. E.T. A. Wolf Rock 2359A/3. Thence diving by day to 044° N. 010° W. thence on the surface at C.O's discretion to 043° N., 010° 40' W. where E.T.A. 0500A/7. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows. (Capt. S.3., 0931A/29 and 1654A/30)

INDOMITABLE. Intend sailing INDOMITABLE escorted by JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK 1015/1st for trial and on completion to Clyde. E.T.A. Clyde 1500/2. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1014/29).
Route and programme. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1434/29) (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0755A/30).

CONQUEROR. Admiralty's 2119A/28. CONQUEROR is to be sailed for the Nore as soon as ready. (C. in C. Rosyth 1244/29 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).
C. in C. Rosyth's 1244/29. Intend to sail CONQUEROR in F.S.8 acting as additional escort. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1600/29).

/TRIBUNE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

TRIBUNE. Intend to sail TRIBUNE at 0830/1st by Q.Z.S. 198-179-124 to Tyne. E.T.A. 1030. (Capt. S.6., 1425A/29).

H.32. Capt. S.9 1211A/28. S/M H.32 is to part company from CUTTY SARK at 0300A/5 in 290° Bishops Rock 5 miles. Thence independently diving by day through following positions to R/V at 0700A/7 in 050° 30' N., 000° 39' W. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to arrange escort and onward passage. It is desired that S/M H.32 arrives Sheerness not later than 10/10. (Capt. S.7 1551A/29 and 1552A/29).

RESOLUTION. CHESHIRE. Escorts. My 1821A/27. Para. 6 (A) delete WITCH. Para. 6 (D) cancel and substitute new paragraph 6 (D) BLANKNEY, BADSWORTH and WITCH will be required to meet RESOLUTION and escort to U.K. BRIGHTON, NEWARK, and LANCASTER will be required to meet CHESHIRE escorting transports and escort to U.K. (C. in C. W.A. 1720A/29).

NIGER. NIGER is to be sailed for Scapa A.M./2nd to make passage in daylight. (C. in C. Rosyth 1723/29).

Operations.

Pursuit of E-Boats. Two E-boats bearing 050° 12 miles from Cromer. (QUORN 2306/29).
Have lost touch with enemy E-Boats. (QUORN 2320/29).
Present course of E-boats 050° Cromer 24, 090° 35 knots (corrupt group) (?2335). (D.16 2345A/29).

British Air Activity.

Shipborne A/C and M/V's. Recognition procedure. Procedure between Warships and M/V's is to be extended for use by day between M/V's and shipborne A/C in Areas 6A, 6B, 3B, and 9. Details and orders. (D. S. D. 1112A/29). See Lion Copy.

/Patrols.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

Patrols. P.R.U's of Trondheim, Stadlandet and of Bergen, Haugesund, Stavanger, Kristiansand South in operation (C. in C. Rosyth 1116/29).

Operation "Roam". Carry out operation "Roam" tonight with two A/C of 22 Squadron. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1155/29 to Thorney Island).

Operations "Hoden", "Rover". (1) Carry out operation "Hoden" tonight with four A/C, as previously ordered.
(2) Carry out operation "Rover" during moonlight tonight with two A/C. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1200/29 to North Coates).
Carry out operation "Rover" this afternoon with two A/C. A/C are not to proceed unless cloud conditions are ideal. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1240/29 to North Coates).

Escort for H.G.73. There is indication that you may be attacked by torpedo bombers and Heinkels. Expect escort of 3 Beaufighters and 12 Blenheims between 1830 and 2015 29th. (C. in C. W.A. 1604A/29 to Escort H.G.73).

Genoa and Emden bombed. On Night 28/29 thirty A/C bombed the docks and town at Genoa and five A/C bombed Emden. Fires were started at both places. (H.Q.B.C. 1658/29).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy. Enemy bombing convoy "Attempt" in 52° 39' N. 2° 9' E. (QUANTOCK 1930/29).

Aberdeen bombed. At 2016 Hostile plane fired at by shore defences, result unknown. Afterwards attacked by fighter from Dyce. No damage, no casualties. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2042/29).

Convoy F.S.5. D.21 reports following from MENDIP.
F.S.5. 4 separate low level beam attacks were definitely frustrated at about 2140 near 62 G. Buoy by blind barrage. Flashless cordite was invaluable while it lasted. 1800A/28 Ends. (C. in C. Nore 2200A/29).

/Peterhead.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.-Contd.

Peterhead bombed. At 2120 two planes passed over Peterhead, one showing navigation lights. One bomb dropped in north harbour, one bomb possibly at station, one bomb in St. James St. 100 yards from base. 3 casualties, more feared. No damage to naval personnel or property. Estimated height 3000. Fire opened with 12 pdrs. and Lewis guns before bombs were dropped. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 221/29).

Mining.

S.N.16A. Arrivals WELSHMAN and MANXMAN. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0017A/29).

Operation "Tincture". Your 1257A/25. Vessel returned. Operation completed. Negative results. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1019A/29).
If possible repeat operation "Tincture" with single trawler. Sweep to start from western side of minefield at daylight tomorrow. (A.C.N.S. H. 1925A/29 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven)
Your 1925A/29. Operation will be carried out. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2101A/29).

Thames Estuary. Request two of your motor minesweepers be sent to Queenborough tomorrow to assist for two or three days in clearing up mines in Thames Estuary. They will be available to return at short notice if required. (C. in C. Nore 1049A/29 to F.O.I.C. London).

M.M.S.1. M.M.S.1. are congratulated on their successful minesweeping operations. (C.N.S. 1902A/29).

S.N.16B. Intend laying surface field S.N.16 B. with WELSHMAN and MANXMAN sailing 1930/2 and laying between 057° 22' 24" N. 000° 50' W. and 057° 16' N. 000° 58' 30" W. am./3rd. Fighter escort will be required from dawn until about 1600/3. (R.A.M. 1941/29).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Ship off Lands End

There are indications of a ship in 050° 18' N. 005° 42' W. at 2350, proceeding South Westerly at about 15 Knots. (C. in C. Plymouth 0020/29 to BROCKLESBY, M.L. 181).

U-Boats.

Estimate 3 German U-boats between 048° and 049° 30' N. and between 009° and 011° W. en route Bay of Biscay ports. (F.O.S. 1646A/29 to SEAWOLF).
U-boat(?attacked by) aircraft in 49° 9' N. 8° 13' W. -at 1630/29, course 120°. You may meet others bound for Biscay Ports. (C. in C. Plymouth 1732/29 to NESTOR.)

Casualties and Defects.

CORILLA.
SELENE.
collision.

CORILLA and SELENE have been in collision 2 miles West of 57B Buoy. Both able to proceed. SELENE with badly damaged steering gear and 3 feet water in hold. (VIMIERA 0302A/29, 0639A/29) SELENE in E.C.79 arrived Humber with damage to port quarter. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1443/29).

M.L. 1022 damaged by SLEIPNER on 27/9.

H.D.M.L's 1058, 1071 and 1022 left Lowestoft at 1455/27 to join F.N. 24 at No. 5 Buoy. Shortly after 2100/27 with 57A Buoy abeam, while taking station astern of convoy, H.D.M.L. 1022 challenged by light by Norwegian Destroyer SLEIPNER. Light incorrectly trained and H.D.M.L. 1022 did not realise he was being challenged. Star shell fired, and subsequently SLEIPNER opened fire on H. D.M.L. 1022 with .5 and pom pom. C.O. wounded. Vessel slightly damaged, 7 days to repair. (F.O.I.C; Yarmouth 1017A/29).

BEVERLEY.

My 1231A/29. BEVERLEY returned Belfast with further condenser trouble. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1410A/29).

WOLFHOUND (Bombed 3/9)

Rescue Tug KROOMAN will be available to tow WOLFHOUND from Hull to Sheerness, p.m. 1st. Second Tug will be provided by United Towing Co. Hull. F.O.I.C. Humber is requested to make necessary arrangements for sailing and escort. (C.C.R.T. 1745A/29 to F.O.I.C. Humber).

/PONTFIELD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

PONTFIELD.
(Mined 15/9).

Request arrangements be made to sail Tanker PONTFIELD from Humber to Tyne in tow of H.M. Tug SEA GIANT and Tug EMPIRE HENCHMAN. (C. C.R.T. 1747A/29).

BRIGHTON.

My 1004A/29. BRIGHTON developed defects. Probable delay 56 hours. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1850/29).

KINGSTON
ANDALUSITE.

Will require docking, due to propellor with one broken blade, otherschipped. Intend sailing at 0900/30 for Plymouth. E.T.A. 1600. Maximum speed 7 knots, escorting W.D. Launch JENNIFER. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1951/29).

BRITISH
PRINCE.
(Bombed 26/9)

Wreck located in 260° 62.E Buoy 5 cables. Least depth over it is 12 fathoms. (F.O. Humber 2306A/29).

Shipping and Convoys.

E.C.79.
BIRGITTA.
KODUMA.
BRUNO.

E.C.79 became straggling during low visibility last night and following ships have not been sighted after search this morning. BIRGITTA bound for Tyne KODUMA bound for Humber Tweed BRUNO bound for Blyth. (VIVIEN 0935A/29).

H.G.73.

FOWEY's 0959A/28. Milford Haven Anchorage has no room for Convoy. If there are insufficient escorts (without survivors to land) to escort the Oban, Clyde, and Liverpool sections, extra escorts will be detailed by F.O.I.C. Milford Haven to E/V with you as signalled later. Report Situation. You are to inform F.O.I.C. Milford Haven as soon as possible details of survivors in Corvettes in order that arrangements may be made to receive them. (C. in C. W.A. 1048A/29 to WOLVERINE, FOWEY).

E.C.79.
W.N.87.
E.C.80.
W.N.88.
(CURACOA).

On unbasining at 1000/30 sail for D.G. range. Burtisland and on completion of D.G. trials proceed to escort E.C.79 due to pass May Island 1530/30.
2. Transfer with GLEANER to W.N. 87 and anchor in Largo Bay on arrival.
3. Sail with E.C.80 (Forth Section) at about noon/third October, transferring from that convoy to W.N.88, and providing escort to Forth.
4. On arrival in Forth, proceed to Rosyth.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1255/29 to CURACOA).

/Brodick.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.

Brodick Bay.

Pass to N.C.S.O.s. Ships from overseas especially those from Canadian Ports continue to arrive at Rothesay when bound for Ayrshire Ports instead of proceeding to Brodick Bay for search. Attention is again drawn to My 1806B/8/6 and 1313B/7/7. (D.T.D. 1437A/29).

Homing Convoys.

Reference W.A.C.I. Part 110 para 19. As a trial measure the following additional instructions -are to be carried out:- Convoys homing by North Channel S/O Escort to signal E.T.A. Dubhartach of Oban portion on crossing 10° W. 2. Convoys homing by Minches S/O escort to signal E.T.A. Dubhartach when off Tiumpan Head. N.O.I.C. Oban to sail one A/S trawler as detailed in my 1511A/2 to meet and escort Oban portion S/O escort will still detail Oban escort in case of not met. On meeting ocean escort to proceed to her base. (C. in C. W.A. 1549A/29 to N.O.I.C. Oban).

H.X.149.

Warmest congratulations on bringing your convoy to the U.K. in safety. (C. in C. W.A. 1555A/29 to Vice Admiral Swabey.)

Iceland. Interstation Vescas.

As U.S. flag M/V's from Iceland are returning to U.S. ports without previous intimation to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, request that S.O.(I) Iceland will initiate Interstation Vescas between Iceland and adjoining Intelligence Centres vide C.B.3000/38, para. 139 as from 1st October. 2. Vesca and Interstation Vesca signals are to include movements of all British, Allied United States, Panamanian, and Icelandic M/V's and those under neutral flags controlled or operated by the foregoing. (D. T.D. 2043A/29 to A.C.I.C.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Force H reported by A/C.

At 0626 G.M.T. an enemy aircraft reported 2 A/C one carrier, 2 battleships, 3 cruisers, 4 destroyers on a westerly course. (F.O.C.N.A., 0816A/29 to Force H).

ST. DAY.

Return to vicinity Cape de Gata unless otherwise ordered by S.O. Force "H". (F.O.C.N.A., 0925A/29 to Fleet Tug ST. DAY.)

PORPOISE.

Intend that PORPOISE pass 043° N., 010° 40' W., at 0500A/7 proceeding thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. to Gibraltar. PORPOISE is painted dark Blue. (Capt. (S) 3, 0941A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CLYDE.

Proceed through 025° 00' 021° 00' 029° 00', 019° 00'. Report P.C. and S. of A at your discretion during night 29/30. (F.O.C.N.A. 1210A/29 to CLYDE).
Your 1210A/29. My P.C. and S. of A. is 21.16 22.37 020° 14. Weather report.
(CLYDE, 2205Z/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Allied and Neutral refugee ships in French North African ports.

Your 1807/7 para. 3 (See * below)
Casablanca 27/9 B.2.
Following allied ships have remained untouched by Naval Authorities; at Port Lyautey; Danish CIRRL HILDE, Belgian STORAA, HEBE II, Norwegian NYHORN, Batavia, Greek ELISE, POLEMIS, Dutch EXPORT, at Casablanca Danish GEIER, EISE, Belgian FREDERIC.
(a) No plans are known for taking over Danish ships but Greek Consul suspects Greek ships may be seized soon. An attempt is being made to secure denial or confirmation of French Admiralty intention to seize above vessels indiscriminately.
(b) No information.
(c) Crews of previously seized ships have been forced to sail on French ship or to return home.
(d) Most ships have gone to Marseilles none have returned.
Fact that French are short of fuel and motor engineers may have prevented seizure of Norwegian ships. (Washington, 1127R/29 to Admty).
*We know that the French are bringing into service Allied and Neutral refugee ships in French North African ports.
Please endeavour to secure information of (a) French preparations to bring these ships into service; (b) probable dates of departure; (c) Axis interest (pressure from Armistice Commission, etc) and (d) the fate of these vessels on arrival in unoccupied ports.

/Your.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Allied and Neutral refugee ships in French North African ports. - Con.

Your 1807/7 para. 3. Dakar 29/9 B.2.
(a) Naval Officials have been ordered to have all interned ships repaired and then to turn them over to French concerns who will act as agent of Vichy Government on instructions from Wiesbaden.
(b) Reference "Medal" Number 71 para. 5, Greek ships are due to sail at end of September. Belgian CARLIER (new name unknown) will sail for Bordeaux Brest and Antwerp on arrival of crew.
(c) All requisitions take place on instructions from Wiesbaden.
(d) No particulars.
In addition to the above, following ships are in port:-
(i) British TAKORADIAN, ARGYLE, GAMBIAN, repairs are nearly completed.
(ii) 4 Norwegian and 1 Yugoslavian. All oil burners. Captains and skeleton crews remain. No instructions issued for recommission due to shortage of oil.
(iii) 2 Danish 2 Greek 1 Italian. No plans yet announced. (Washington, 1419R/29 to Admty).

Escort for NELSON.

Departure FLEUR DE LYS, ROCKINGHAM, JONQUIL, ARBUTUS, SAMPHIRE, eastward for escort duty. (F.O.C.N.A., 1250A/29 to NELSON).

P. 34.

Intend to sail P.34 p.m./1 for Malta, P.34 will pass through 038° 00' 009° 00' about 0400A/5 N.O.I.C. Malta is requested to signal onward route. P.34 supplied with position given in N.O.I.C. Malta's 0238B/18.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1408A/29 to C. in C. Med).

LISBOA (German) Spanish supplies.

Ref. S.O.(I) Letter RS 18/74/9 of 3.9.41 to D.N.I.
Now learnt that German LISBOA at Sagunto on 14/9 loaded iron ore brought there on 11/9 from Melilla in Spanish FERNANDO L. DE YBARRA.
2. M.E.W. considering instituting ship Navicert system for all shipments from Spanish Morocco to mainland unless guarantee against transhipment to enemy forthcoming.
3. This would be empty threat unless we can intercept ships, should Consul Melilla report that the trade is continuing without ships navicerts. Request your views on possibility of such interceptions observing no additional forces from U.K. available.
F.O.C.N.A. pass to F.O. Force H., on arrival.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1814A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/ST. BRIEUX.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

ST. BRIEUX, ATLAS. Departure 28th ST. BRIEUX Sete. Arrival 28th ATLAS. (Barcelona, 1832/29).

Operation "Halberd" air escorts. 202 Squadron, 2 Catalinas escort NELSON from East, Dawn till dusk, areas covered 37.07 N., 00.05 W., to 36. 20 N., 03.00 W., 2 Hudsons 233 Squadron anti air escort NELSON. Same period. Same area. 1 Catalina escort Force M.G.2 from East. Dawn to dusk. Area covered 37.20 N., 03.10 E., to 36.43 N., 0032.W. (200 Group, 1835/29). All force withdrawn. No air attack. PRINCE OF WALES, KENYA, SHEFFIELD, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, ORIBI, FORESIGHT, FURY, FORESTER, E.T.A. 1700A/30. Request Northern Gate at 1800A. C.S.18 and remaining ships E.T.A. 1000A/1/10 (V.A. 2., 1915Z/29 to S.O. Force H).

Attack on Gibraltar by one man S/Ms 20/9. Your 1218A/28. One. Yes but presence of Italian(?) submarine in Gibraltar Bay now considered improbable.
2. (i) Small explosion in DENBYDALE at detached Mole at 0742 followed by explosion in DURHAM in commercial anchorage at 0817 and explosion in FIONA SHELL in commercial anchorage at 0813(?). (ii) probably about 0200/20 which was slack water (iii) No, but one Italian breathing apparatus (similar to those found after attack in October 1940) was found floating in commercial anchorage at 0920. (iv) Levanter condition at 0200/20 inside harbour. Wind E., force 2 B.C. very dark. (v) (vi) Description of A/S measures in force. (vii) Following facts established (a) four Italians landed on beach East of Campamento probably about 0500/20 wearing some form of diving dress were met by motor car waiting them. (c) Remarks on A/S measures. (d) Asdic conditions in Strait had been extremely bad for some weeks.
3. (a) Until improvement can be designed and made to net defences, security of harbour against miniature submarines depends on firing of explosive charge in entrance. This is now being done at both gates by separate boats at very short intervals.

/(b).....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Attack on Gibraltar by one man S/Ms 20/9. (Contd.)

(b) Concertina barbed wire is being laid on sea bed in both entrances and also secured to side and bottom of net but this must still leave gaps. South Gate is practically finished. Further proposals being forwarded (? with) reports.
(d) Patrol of commercial anchorage has been strengthened.
4. Problem is being further considered but at present it appears beyond patrols little effective protection can be afforded ships in commercial anchorage. Undesirable therefore to leave valuable ships here longer than necessary as success of this attempt and proximity of Spanish Territory would appear to make repetition certain. Harbour too congested to berth them inside.
5. Request any information available as to effective (?lethal) range of 5 pound charges.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1930A/29 to Admty).

LA CARRIERE. If LA CARRIERE not already met return forthwith to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2117A/29 to ERIN).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ENCOUNTER,
BULOLO,
KOS XI,
KOS X.

Simonstown arrival 28/9 ENCOUNTER, Departure 2116Z/28 BULOLO for Tristan Da Cunha, S. of A. 14.5 knots, E.T.A. 0800Z/3. Capetown departure 1050Z/28 KOS XI and X for Durban, S. of A. 8 knots, E.T.A. Durban a.m./2. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1030Z/29 to N.O.I.C. Durban etc).

BIRMINGHAM.

Your 1521/28, concur.. Consider operation(s) round Trinidada Island important in view of my 2033/28 and other information from Admiralty. (C. in C. S.A., 1045N/29 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Greek Ships to be operated by French.

Meter My 1937 15 not to Admiralty and 2015/15 para. 5 * to Admiralty only (see below).
Dakar 24/9 A.l. Ships in question have been renamed respectively ANDORRE, LIBREVILLE, SAHARA, MONROVIA, ST. MARTIN and will probably sail Northward bound at the end of September. (B.A.D. Washington 1157R/29 to S.O.'s (I) Freetown and Gib).
* (5) Dakar 12/9 A.l. Director of Maritime Transport has informed Greek consort that French Admiralty intended to operate following Greek ships under French flag:

Old Name.	New Name.
MOUNT PRIONAS,	ANDORRE.
CAPE CORSO,	LIBREVILLE.
AFROESSA,	SAHARA.
MOUNT ITHOME,	MONROVIA.
ADELFOI CHANDRIS,	ST. MARTIN.

EAGLE.

My 1235A/27. EAGLE will be taken in hand by Cammell Lairds, Liverpool.
(D.O.D. (F) 1326A/29 to C. in C. S.A.)
Admty., 1235A/27. Following are proposed arrangements for escort of EAGLE to Gibraltar. EAGLE to sail from Freetown p.m./4 escorted by DUNEDIN BRIDGEWATER, and 2 Corvettes. Escort will be taken over by VIMY and WILD SWAN off Bathurst a.m. /6, other vessels returning to Freetown. EAGLE to be routed east of Canary Islands. VIMY to be detached in about 026° N., to return to Bathurst, WILD SWAN to continue escort to Gibraltar. Can you meet EAGLE with another destroyer when VIMY leaves?
(C. in C. S.A., 1733N/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/STANVAC.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ENCOUNTER, BULOLO, KOS XI, KOS X.

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My 1235A/27. EAGLE will be taken in hand by Cammell Lairds, Liverpool. (D.O.D. (F) 1326A/29 to C. in C. S.A.)
Admty., 1235A/27. Following are proposed arrangements for escort of EAGLE to Gibraltar. EAGLE to sail from Freetown p.m./4 escorted by DUNEDIN BRIDGEWATER, and 2 Corvettes. Escort will be taken over by VIMY and WILD SWAN off Bathurst a.m. /6, other vessels returning to Freetown. EAGLE to be routed east of Canary Islands. VIMY to be detached in about 026° N., to return to Bathurst, WILD SWAN to continue escort to Gibraltar. Can you meet EAGLE with another destroyer when VIMY leaves?
(C. in C. S.A., 1733N/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/STANVAC.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

STANVAC suspicious ship, 14/9.

Ref. N.C.S.O. Santos 1945Z/19. Master STANVAC, Manila, states suspicious ship sighted on 14/9 had many features similar to Norwegian THOR line vessel THORSTRAND. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1434Z/29 to Admty).

REVENGE.

Taken in hand 28/9 repairs to collision damage and docking. Ship at 24 hours' notice until docked on 1/10. F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 0942Z/12 refers. (N.L.O. Durban, 1630B/29 to Admty).

Troop Transport Berbera to W. Africa.

A.M. 1228/29/8 and P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1821/25.
1. Request information whether your escort arrangements will permit delay of approx. four days at Cape to embark as much cargo for U.K. in troopships as draught limitations at Takoradi will permit.
2. Do you prefer them to call at Capetown or Durban? (D.O.D. (F) 1801A/29 to C. in C. S.A.)

Visit to Bissau.

Request Portuguese Govt. may be informed that it is proposed that one H.M. Motor Launch shall visit Bissau for 24 hours arriving about 7/10 and that I may be informed early if there is any objection to this visit.
(C. in C. S.A., 1801N/29 to N.A. Lisbon).

NEW NORTHLAND.

Defects. Imperative vessel remains Freetown (?10) days at least for repairs. Propose retaining here to connect with W.S. 12. (S.S.T.O. Freetown 2031N/29 to D. of S.T.)

WINDHUK.

Santos reports German Ship WINDHUK is embarking 300 drums of Diesel Oil.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2334Z/29 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" BRECONSHIRE. My 2013B/28. Arrived 28/9 BRECONSHIRE. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 0831B/29).

VENDETTA. Request you sail VENDETTA for Haifa using her for escort (? as convenient). (C. in C. Med., 0931B/29 to R.A.D. Med). Leave Alexandria at 1800B/29 for Haifa E.T.A. 1600C/30. Attention is called to N.O.I.C. Port Said's 1216/27. (R.A.D., Med., 1207B/29 to VENDETTA).

NAPIER, JACKAL. C. in C. Med., 1154C/28 not to Port Tewfik. NAPIER and JACKAL are at your disposal for escort duty. Report your intended employment for them. For information Capt. (D) 7, S.O. Suez escort force is in NAIAD. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 0941B/29 to S.O. Suez Escort Force).

Enemy M/V. P.C. and S. of 1 enemy merchant vessel 32.58 N., 25.40 E., 270° unknown. (Med., A/C "R" 0950/29 to Med. A/C Call Sign 6 F J). Attacked M.V 1500 tons YPPD 3015, 310, 3 no hits. Chased by ME. 110. (Med., A/C 1040/29 amended 1130/29)W.D. Note. Position indecypherable. If TPDD = 32.30 N., 25.15 E. My 0845. Driven off, am returning to base. (Med., A/C "R", 1051/29).

REGENT. My 0957B/19. Repairs to periscope top entirely satisfactory. REGENT will be ready for full patrol sailing P.M./3. (Capt. S.10, 1031B/29, to Capt. S.1)

Rhodes bombed. Dodecanese. Night 27/28. 11 Wellingtons bombed Rhodes Harbour, causing explosions and many fires 1 Wellington forced landed in Sea 30 miles S.E. of Rhodes. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1114/29).

Enemy M/V attacked, Bardia. Night 27/28. Attacks were continued throughout the night on enemy ship in Bardia Harbour attacked previous day 37 Marylands. Bombs from 11 Albacores started large petrol fire on south side of harbour, 2 falling near ship. 2 torpedoes also fired by them were caught in nets across harbour mouth. 3 Wellingtons dropped bombs near ship and started 2 large fires. Day 28/9. 3 Blenheims attacked ship at first light, results being unobserved. 2 Blenheims missing at midday. Marylands escorted by 37 Hurricanes Tomahawks,

/and Martlets ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy M/V attacked, Bardia. Contd. and Martlets bombed ship from 12000 feet, 1 bomb falling near vessel. Much oil seen on surface after attack. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1116/29)

AVON VALE, ERIDGE. On arrival at Suez AVON VALE and ERIDGE are to form part of 2nd D/F. (C. in C. Med., 1156B/29)

Operation "Halberd" IMPERIAL STAR. Is it certain IMPERIAL STAR has sunk? (A.C.N.S. (F) 1230A/29 to V.A. Malta). Your 1230A/29. No, but A/C sent to provide escort for IMPERIAL STAR on 28th failed to find any trace. Naval Liaison officer reports she was left burning fiercely from stem to stern with heavy list after 3 depth charges had exploded internally. (V.A. Malta, 1745B/29 to Admty) Operation "Halberd", preliminary report. (S.O. Force H., 1730A/29 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Russian S/Ms. Repetition of Admiral Miles 1051C/28. Request you will reply. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1427A/29 to C. in C. Med).

Operation "Halberd" Air attack on Comiso. Correction to I 153, 28/9 (1945/28) Part 3. Hurricanes made 3 bombing attacks on Comiso Aerodrome to keep down fighters whilst convoy was arriving Grand Harbour. 90 per cent of 5140 lbs of bombs fell in target area. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1509/29).

Tobruk mines. Mine sweeping summary, week ending 29/9. Two minelaying raids, three parachute mines, four non-parachute mines laid in harbour three exploded ahsore. Mines swept. In harbour, one "J" type red by L single pulsing laid 24/9. In swept channel one Acoustic by S.A., one magnetic by L. Outside channel one Acoustic by S.A. laid 13/9. One magnetic by L. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk, 1604B/29).

R/C Naples, Messina, Cagliari. Visual R/C 29/9. Naples. 2 Battleships, 1 cruiser, 7 destroyers. Messina. 2 Cruisers and 1 cruiser being towed in by tug. Cagliari, 1 Destroyer, 1 torpedo boat, 1 submarine. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1607B/29 to S.O. Force H). My 1607B/29. Confirmed by photograph (i) Naples, battleships are LITTORIO class (ii) Messina no amplification can be made. (V.A. Malta, 2305B/29 to S.O. Force H).

/REGENT.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

REGENT, PERSEUS. Request you will sail REGENT P.M./3 to spend one day on patrol in Khoms Bay, Cape Misurata area, thence area C southward south of 032° 45' East of 015° 00'. Patrol should be concentrated off Benghazi after PERSEUS leaves area P.M./6. REGENT will be recalled arriving Alexandria A.M. /24. (Capt. S.1. 1611B/29 to Capt. S.10).

TALISMAN. Establish patrol in area A between 037° and 038° 30' West of 025° 40'. Concentrate patrol off Gulf of Athens. (Capt. S.1. 1615B/29 to TALISMAN)

SOKOL, UTMOST, TRUSTY, UPHOLDER. At 1930B/29 bring into force (corrupt group) B. SOKOL and UTMOST return to Malta in accordance with previous orders making passage through Q B B 65 during daylight 30/9 and 2/10 respectively. TRUSTY leaves patrol 1930B and UPHOLDER 2000B/29 for 037° 55' 011° 50' and 038° 00' 011° 40' to make passage through Q B B 65 on 1/10 as in my 1005B/27 para 2 but for SOKOL read UPHOLDER both arrive Malta 2/10.
(Capt. S10 1617B/29 to 10 S/M F.)

Palermo Mines. H.Q. R.A.F. Med, I. 152 dated 27/9. Position of 4 mines laid at Palermo by Swordfish night 26/27, In a semi circle approx. 250 yards south ends outer Mole covering. (V.A. Malta, 1619B/29)

Malta Raid. Night 28/29. Alert 2038 to 2155 hours, 5 enemy aircraft approached island, 2 crossed coast all bombs dropped in sea off Grand Harbour.

Enemy Fleet. 28/9. 28/9. Enemy fleet sighted 1600 hours 72 miles Cape Carbonara 095° course Northerly, speed 15 knots. (H.Q. Malta, 1630/29).

Air attack on T/Bs. P.M. 28/9. 2 Beaufighters 272 Squadron attacked 2 torpedo boats probably ERNESTE GIOVANNI Class South East Cape San Marco. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1639/29).

/Palermo,.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Palermo bombed. Night 28/29. 12 Wellingtons attacked Palermo shipping. 1932 to 2158 hours 8000lbs. bombs from average height 6000 feet scored majority hits in dry dock area. Hits observed on power station, also short Northern Mole and town area near harbour, small fire started near oil tanks. 2 probable hits M/Vs. 4 Beaufighters attacked aerodrome and seaplane base. (H.Q. Malta, 1645/29).

Schooner attacked. Night 28 - 29. 6 Blenheims carried out shipping sweep in Gulf of Sirte beginning Misurata. After long search no shipping seen except schooner attacked 3 miles N.W. Buerat, near misses. (H.Q. Malta, 1654/29).

Turkey. My 1801B/27. Re interview with Gen. Asim Genduz concerning defence of Iskanderun, and Turkish proposals. (N.A. Angora, from Adm. Kelly, 1706B/29, to C. in C. Med) See Lion Copy.

Enemy Convoy. My 1015B/28, second sentence. These ships are now due 1030B/2/10, speed 11 knots. (Capt. S.1. 1731B/29 to PERSEUS)

Black Sea. Enemy line is now about 7 miles south of Perekop. (L.O. Black, Sea. 1808/29 to Admty).

Black Sea. Request general situation report covering following points, followed by amplified reports when additional information is obtainable:-
(a) Numbers, identifications and dispositions of Soviet forces in Crimea.
(b) Location and progress of military operations in Crimea.
(c) Military and civilian morale.
(d) Reserves of food and material.
(e) Effect of bombing of towns, ports and fleet.
(f) Activities of fleet.
(g) Any other useful intelligence.
(D.N.I., 1826A/29 to B.N.L.O. Black Sea)
Your 2153/26. Request full information concerning Focke Wulf 190. Chief information required is description, estimated performance and armament, and numbers believed to be in operation.
(D.N.I., 1934A/29 to L.O. Black Sea).

/TETRARCH.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TETRARCH, TRIUMPH.

My 1651B/27. After passing 034° 14' 024° 00' (?proceed) through 032° 16' 028° 34' thence direct to arrive secret anchorage 0530B/3. TRIUMPH is routed (?through) 034° 38' 021° 44' thence direct to Alexandria to arrive same time and date. (Capt. S.1. 1835B/29 to TETRARCH)

Enemy Shipping.

German HANS ARP, 2645 tons, sailed from Trieste on 4/9, probably for Dubrovnik. Italian MAURO CROCE, 1049 tons, arrived Barcelona 26/9. Ex- Greek tanker PETRAKIS NOMIKOS, 7020 tons, under German flag, German MARITZA, 2910 tons, and PROCIDA, 1842 tons, and Italian AVIONIA 1122 tons, are reported (B.2) to have sailed from Piraeus on 24/9. (D.S. 755, 29/9).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CENTURION. Your 1207Z/27, (earliest date CENTURION is likely to be required) 1st November. (1st S.L. 0027A/29 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

REWAK. Your 2114/26. Launch REWAK (a) No information that launch was in French naval service. French N.O. piloting vessel was part of complement of oiler ELORNE at Djibouti. (b) Position of interception Obokh 040° 2 miles.
(2) Launch is being detained and will be escorted or towed to Aden by NETRAVATI leaving Zeilah 30/9. (S.N.O. Red Sea., 0602Z/29 to Admty.)

CLAN FORBES. Suggested programme, Port T and Port W. (C. in C. E.I., 0740Z/29 to C. in C. China). See Lion Copy.

Jibuti. It is not known what is carried. For last two days five trips per day from Obock to Jibuti by aircraft have been made. A request from Yemen Authorities to allow five Dhows to proceed to Jibuti to repatriate Yemen subjects was refused by me but Dhows were permitted to go Obock under supervision, they left again yesterday but French authorities only allowed two women and one man to be evacuated notwithstanding there were some two hundred there. (C. in C. M.E. 0800/29 to C. in C. Med.)

B.P.16. Convoy B.(?P) 16 sailed 28/9 due Basra 4/10. (details) (S.S.T.O. India, 0835A/29 to S.T.O. Basra.)

Port T. (1) The title Defence Commander Port T is being used by S.O. of M.N.B.D.O. at Port T.
(2) An H.M. Ship Establishment of codes and cyphers is available at Port T. Requested any signals for Port T be addressed in text "C. in C. East Indies for Defence Commander Port T". (C. in C. E.I., 1356Z/29 to C. in C. China).

Marsamarhu Light. W.C.68 Red Sea Marsamarhu light X lat. 18° 50' X may be unreliable until further notice. (Navyntell Colombo 1732Z/29).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

MARECHAL JOFFRE. (French).

Departure 28/9. (Manila, 0642Z/29 to M. of W.T.)

America and West Indies.

Newfoundland Escorts.

As 2 of the destroyers and 5 of the corvettes detailed in C. in C. W.A. 1858A/28 are already out of action for periods between 3 and 8 weeks, and as 2 R.C.N. Destroyers are now in U.K. detailed for next C.T. Convoy and 3 detailed for T.C.14, it is most improbable that we shall be able to continue to maintain in action 6 groups of 8 ships for the present. (C.C.N.F., 0117Z/29, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

MALOJA.
WOLFE.

Your 1820A/28. WOLFE and MALOJA speed insufficient (?excludes) inclusion in T.C.14. Intend they should sail for U.K. in next convenient H.X. convoy, final destination Southampton. C.O.A.C. Halifax requested to arrange. WOLFE will leave Bermuda for Halifax 30/9, arriving 2/10. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0922Q/29 to Admty.) Orders to WOLFE (1032Q/29).

Distress Report.

Priority for information from N.O.B. Guantanamo relayed by Comten, reports unidentified British Ship in distress calling Kingston Jamaica on 500 kcs. 2248/28. No other information picked up by Guantanamo due to bad static conditions. (Opnav, 0300/29 to Admty.)
Guantanamo reports unidentified British ship in distress calling Kingston (Jamaica) on 500 Kcs. at 2248/28. (D.O.D.(F) 0841A/29 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.O.I.C. Kingston).

/Admty.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Distress Report -Contd.

Admty. 0841A/29. British ship HOPECASTLE reported herself off Guantanamo 0645R/28 awaiting orders from consignee in Havana. No distress signal received Kingston. (Capt. I/C Jamaica, 1051R/29 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Following received from Opnav. Unidentified British ship in distress. No further details. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1335Z/29 to Admty. etc.)
My dispatch regarding British ship in distress calling Kingston. Probably this vessel is British S.S. NOVELIST which sailed Savannah 1400/28 course 70 speed 11. Would be approx. 30 miles S.E. of Charleston Light at 2248/28. Sent to C. in C. America and West Indies, Comsix, Comdr. Southern Lant Naval Coastal Frontier for action. Sent to Com ten. (Opnav, 1840/29 to Admty.)

AUSONIA.

Bermuda departure AUSONIA in accordance with my 1307Q/25/9, E.T.A. Halifax 1/10.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1013Q/29 to Admty.)

Suspicious A/C, Lisbon.

U.S. ship EXCALIBUR reports that on 20/9 when about 100 miles out from Lisbon, ship was circled twice by 4 engined German plane which then flew off to Northward. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1209Q/29 to Admty.)

MENESTHEUS.

Leaves Norfolk for Halifax Thursday 2/10.
(B.A.R.M. 1246R/29 to Admty.)

S.C.47.

Sailed at 1730Z/29, draft sailing telegram delayed further 12 hours due to late sailing.
(N.C.S.O. Sydney, 1251Z/29 to Admty.)

O.N.S. Escorts.

Request escort units may be sailed as follows, from Iceland: 4.1.11 with O.N.S.21. 4.1.12 with O.N.S. 23. 4.1.14 with O.N.S. 25. 4.1.15 with O.N.S. 27. 4.1.16 with O.N.S. 29. 4.1.13 with O.N.S. 31. Names of ships in each unit will be signalled later. (C.C.N.F., 1359Z/29 to S.O.P.A. Iceland).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.9.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Washington 1419R/29, see North Atlantic.

Bases. Following from B.A.S.R. Your 1559A/24. Have investigated. No instructions have been given by U.S. Authorities which would show (?slow) down in any way equipment bases. On contrary Bureau Yards and Docks is pressing on work with utmost energy. (B.A.D. 1449R/29 to Admty.)

POLYANTHUS. Your 1724Z/24 and my 1508/26. POLYANTHUS can be accepted at U.S. Navy Yard. Charleston. Request she may arrive at 2000 zone 5 time on 6/10 at sea Buoy 2C 5½ miles S.E. of Jetties off Charleston. (B.A.R.M. 1534R/29 to C.C.N.F.)

ORDUNA. Your 2035A/25, para. 4. ORDUNA arrived Halifax in time to sail with H.X. 152, 28/9. 78 Air Force embarked in addition to 450 passengers already on board. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1603Z/29 to Admty.)

BUXTON. Your 1258Z/24, confirmed BUXTON is capable of making passage to St. Johns N.F. to U.K. at convoy speed. Intend sailing BUXTON for St. Johns N.F. on completion of working up about 7/10. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1646Z/29 to F.O. N.F.)

CANDYTUFT. Your 1226R/22. CANDYTUFT in tow of PRUDENT will proceed for Brooklyn 2/10 and should arrive 9/10 in accordance with your 1214R/25. (C.C.N.F., 1754Z/29 to B.A.R.M.)

ROODE ZEE. My 1627A/22 and Comdre i/c Bermuda's 1217Q/25. ROODE ZEE is to be sailed for East Indies as soon as practicable. Arrangements are being made for U.S. Tug AMERICAN, 550 H.P., length 97 feet, to be sent to Bermuda in lieu. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1956A/29 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/HARBOE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

HARBOE JENSEN. My 1621Z/28 Diesel engine oil fuel capacity 30 days at speed 11-½ to 12 knots consider direct route to Capetown would allow insufficient margin for stress of weather and possible need for diversion. Calls for bunkers are therefore necessary at Port of Spain Capetown and probably Aden. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2014Z/29 to D. of S.T.)

CATHAY. Your 1412R/27. Anticipated date of arrival of CATHAY at Halifax is 8/10.
2. C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to inform B.A.R.M., Washington, anticipated date of arrival at Brooklyn. (D.O.D. (H) 2317A/29 to B.A.R.M. C.O.A.C.)

FORTH. My P.C. and S. 040° 38' N. 070° 27' W. 124° 13 knots. E.T.A. Halifax 0600P/1. (FORTH, 2355Z/29 to C. in C. A.W.I. etc.)

U.S. Ships for Eire. U.S. Maritime Commission has authorized the chartering of two cargo vessels to Eire for service between the United States and Canadian ports and Eire.
Vessels are WEST HEMATITE (8,556 tons) and WEST NERIS (8,542 tons). Both are leaving New Orleans to-day for New York, manned by Irish crews who arrived in this country several days ago and will be operated by Irish Shipping Limited, under the Irish flag. (The Times Correspondent, New York, 29/9, published 30/9).

New Zealand.

A/S Vessels. Admty. 1934A/11. Following is position regarding A/S vessels in New Zealand. (N.Z.N.B., 1134M/29 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.9.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

TRINIDAD. Panamanian, 434 tons, from Lisbon to Dublin, now known was sunk by gunfire from German S/M on 5/9 about 380 m. N.W. of Cape Finisterre. 10 survivors landed Oporto after being in open boats for 22 days (M.S., 755).
W.D. Note:- 4th American ship torpedoed, others ROBIN HOOD, SESSA, PINK STAR.

H.G.73. (Attacked 26/9.) C. in C. W.A. 1048/29. Survivors as follows: JASMINE 56 plus 10 cot cases; PERIWINKLE 19 plus 1; HIBISCUS, 34; BEGONIA, 37; STONECROP 14, plus 1; FOWEY 107 plus 1; COXWOLD,53, STARLING, 73. Propose sending corvette to Milford Haven together with FINLAND for Barry Roads. Survivors from FOWEY, COXWOLD, and STARLING who are naval ratings to be landed at Liverpool. Escorts for Clyde, MYOSOTIS,Oban, GENTIAN, Liverpool, WOLVERINE, FOWEY, LARKSPUR. JASMINE, PERIWINKLE and STONECROP will be detached at dawn. Ships for north west port to be detached off Holyhead. WOLVERINE concurs.
(FOWEY, 1315A/29 to C.in C.W.A.)

Submarines Reported.

1100 (Mediterranean) Suspect Submarine submerged 33.06 N., 24.06 E., 235. 6. 1035.
(Med. A/C "W" 1100/29.)

1114Z. By D/F at 1114Z/29 German U/Boat, possibly homeward bound, was within 20 miles of 49°10'N. 18°10' W.
(D.D.I.C. 1316A/29 to W.App.Comd.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1426A/29.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. Oil patch in 46.44 N., 8.15 W. Have attacked enemy with one depth charge and estimate no hits.
(A/C duty Q, 0935/29, to 19 Group.)
Oil moving very slowly 230.
(A/C duty Q, 1070/29, to 19 Group.)

By Whitley A/C. Am over enemy S/M in 59.07 N., 5.40W., (position based on fix obtained by observation of terrestrial objects at 1500.)
(A/C duty S, 1515/29, to Group 18).
(A.C.O.S., 1556A/19 to VALSE.)

/My 1315....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29;9.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By Whitley A/C. -Contd.

My 1315: (?1515 intended) Have attacked enemy with level bombing. Estimate nil hits. Periscope only of enemy S/M previously reported was sighted. Enemy course and speed are 040° 5 knots. Am carrying out shadowing duty of submerged S/M. Weather report. (A/C duty S., 1527/29 to 18 Group) Details of attack (Pitreavie 2225/29) See Lion Copy.

By A/C

Am over enemy submarine in 49.09 N., 8.23 W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 120° estimated speed 10 knots. (A/C duty A., T.O.R. 1619/29, 1642/29, to 19 Group). Details of attack. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth, 2300/29, 0205/30) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Enemy coastal batteries fired 10 rounds between 2249 and 2255 today. All fell to the westward of Dower, near C.W.52. No damage or casualties are reported.

British Air Operations.

84 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Stettin last night and 64 attacked Blochm and Voss establishments and other targets at Hamburg. Direct hits are claimed on the aircraft factory of Blohm and Voss and near misses on the ADMIRAL SCHEER causing damage to the quay alongside her mooring. Minor attacks were made on Le Havre and naval bases in N.W. Germany.

It is believed that one merchant ship was torpedoed in a convoy attacked by Coastal Command aircraft today off South Norway.

4 Blenheims attacked the shipyards at St. Nazaire at 2145 today.

MOST SECRET.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing drifter NORTH BRITON was unsuccessfully bombed at 1525 3 miles E. of Collieston.

There was a sharp air attack on the Tyne area from 2105 - 2215 today. Superficial naval damage was caused at North Shields. H.M. Trawlers EILEEN DUNCAN and STAR OF DEVERON were sunk. SUNFISH (S/M) was seriously damaged.

Convoy E.C.79 called for help at 1924 in 56° 40' N. 2° 5' W. No damage has been reported.

Convoy F.N.25 reported being attacked at 2058 in 54° 59' N. 1° 11' W. No damage has been reported.

Convoy C.W.52 was attacked at 1943 in 51° 22' N. 1° 32' E. S.S. CEDARWOOD was damaged and was towed to Dover.

Mining.

S.S. CARRICKMORE engaged a D.O.17 at 2150A 10 miles S. by E. of the Tuskar. The A/C reappeared at 2240 and dropped 2 objects, believed to have been mines, about 2 miles south of the Tuskar.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Halberd"

NELSON arrived at Gibraltar at 1000 today. S.O. Force H. intends to retain FORESIGHT, FORESTER and FURY until sailing date of NELSON can be forecast.
F.O.C.N.A. proposes that the forces employed on the operation should be dispersed as follows:- PRINCE OF WALES, EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD and 3 destroyers to the U.K. about 1830A/1. KENYA with 2 destroyers to escort LEINSTER and any merchant ships ex Operation "Substance" to U.K. about 0200A/2. EURYALUS, FARNDALE and HEYTHROP for Freetown.

Convoy protection.

Owing to the recent attacks by U-boats on S.L.87 and H.G.73 west of Canary Isles and 450 miles north of the Azores respectively, the Admiralty propose that when attacks are forecast Force H. should assist, either by reinforcing the convoy escorts by destroyers or harassing the U-boats by ARK ROYAL's aircraft by day. S.O. Force H, however, considered these proposals to be impracticable (see 7/10).

PORT CHALMERS, CITY OF PRETORIA.

PORT CHALMERS and CITY OF PRETORIA arrived at Gibraltar from Malta this morning and early this afternoon respectively.
PORT CHALMERS reports having engaged and driven off by gunfire an E-boat at 2320/27. Twice on 28/9 Italian aircraft examined her, but no attack occurred. CITY OF PRETORIA was examined on the morning of 28/9 by an Italian and later by a French aircraft. At 1725/28 she was attacked in 37° 20' N. 7° 30' E. by 3 Italian torpedo bombers; she avoided their torpedoes and damaged one of the enemy by gunfire. At the same time she sighted and shelled a submarine periscope sighted astern; but no attack developed. When approaching Cape de Gata at 0200/30 a strange craft, possibly a S/M, was sighted on the surface and fired two or three rounds.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

U.S. forces are patrolling along a line from Pernambuco towards Cape Verde Is.

BIRMINGHAM is to operate in the neighbourhood of the new focal area round Abrothos on completion of Trinidada sweep. The two corvettes sent to join R.A.S.A.D. are to work in the same area, after visiting Rio de Janeiro about 7/10, to advertise their presence.

DEVONSHIRE is to join the South Atlantic Station after escorting Convoy W.S.12 to the Cape.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd". GURKHA and LEGION sank an Italian U-boat at 1010 today in 37° 10' N. 0° 56' E.

Libya and Western Desert. 13 Wellingtons attacked shipping in Benghazi last night, obtaining several direct hits on a merchant vessel alongside the outer mole. A ship was seen by R/C today on fire in Benghazi.

There was a combined bombing and mine laying raid on Tobruk at 2000 today. 3 mines which fell in the harbour self detonated 2 hours later, one exploded ashore and two fell outside the searched channel.

Black Sea. B.N.L.O. Black Sea reports that the Russian destroyer FRUNZE and gunboat RED ARMENIA were both sunk by aircraft about 21/9 off Tendra.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

Casualties in S.C.46.	About 6 or 7 ships in Convoy S.C.46 were sunk or damaged or went aground during the passage of Belle Isle Strait in dense fog.
Flag of B.S.3.	The Flag of F.O. 3rd B.S. was hauled down p.m. today. C.O.A.C. Halifax will take over all operational and administrative duties of R.A.3.

MOST SECRET.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

GRAPH. A.C.I.C. 1738/29. Intend to attach GRAPH to 5 S/M Flotilla for period of her visit to Barrow. (F.O.S. 1101A/30.)

BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN. A.M. 1115A/27 and C. in C. Nore's 1632A/29. It is approved for BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN to relieve CONQUEROR at the Tyne. (D.O.D.H. 1106A/30.)

Canadian Escorts. C.C.N.F's 1359Z/29. Presume it is intended I should continue to sail Canadian escorts and not S.O.P.A. (A.C.I.C. 1905/30 to C. in C.W.A.)

COMMANDANT DUBOC. When COMMANDANT DUBOC has completed escort duties with SILVERBELLE it is suggested that she should return to the U.K. with S.L. 88. (C. in C. W.A. 2252A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Co-operation with Russia.

M/S Gear for Russian Trawlers. Lists of other Naval articles. Understand that D.T.M. told Powell that there was a proposal that 9 Russian S Trawlers should be chosen and sent to U.K. for fitting out with LL and SA gear. Request confirmation. (Ad. Miles. 1045/30.)
1. Your 1045/30.9.41. Confirm proposal is "The Admiralty could undertake to fit up 12 Russian Trawlers with LL. and SA. gear. These vessels if sailed immediately before Archangel is closed by ice could be equipped and practiced by the time conditions permitted them to return to Archangel". This proposal was sent by A.C.N.S.(H) to Admiral Kharlamov 19.9.41.
2. Adty. 1119A/16, para.3. List of articles of naval supply asked for by Soviet Mission in London, and replies thereon to the Mission, awaiting passage to you by next Catalina (delayed by weather). (D.N.I. 1722A/30 to Ad. Miles.)

Technical information requested. Soviet Naval Authorities request they may be supplied with (A) particulars of non-gassing batteries as fitted in O.R. Submarines.
(B) Explanation of method of Hydrogen Absorption employed in such batteries. Request has arisen as a result of co-operation with Captain Fawkes of Soviet Submarine personnel in Black Sea and it is recommended that request should be acceded to (Ad. Miles 1301C/30 to Adty.)

/Archangel

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia - contd.

Archangel. Facilities for M/Vs.

M.E.W's representative reports the total capacity of Archangel to be 1000 tons daily. N.I.D. records, which include outlying wharves as far north as Ekonomia, give an estimate of 8,000 to 10,000 tons per day. Request you will visit and make a report, similar to your 1903/26/9, on the complete port facilities of Archangel, and outlying wharves. (D.N.I. 1415A/30 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)
Your 2231A/27th and my 0949C/29. Full details now being collected by a committee of Beaverbrook conference. It is therefore unnecessary for B.S.N.O. Murmansk to visit Archangel.
(N.A. Moscow 2252C/30.)

Movements.

Z.5.
H.28.

Cancel my 2305/29. Ships have not yet sailed.
(Capt. D. Londonderry 0200/30.)
Sailed H.28 escorted by Z.5 at 0230A/30. My 0957A/29 amend E.T.A.Campbeltown to read 1030A/30.
(Capt. D. Londonderry 0245A/30.)

INDOMITABLE.

Amend my 1454/29 for I.J. 2850 read I.J.7850.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0755A/30.)

O.10.
Z.5.

Request you will sail S/M O.10 escorted by Z.5 to arrive Rothesay a.m./3rd via Sound of Islay, arranging fighter protection. S. of A. 9½ knots. (Capt. S.7. 1046A/30 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)
Intend to sail O.10 escorted by Z.5 at 1430A/2 in accordance with S.7's 1046A/30. F.O.i/c Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1810A/30.)

WANDERER.

Increase speed if necessary to arrive before dark. Reduce to 20 knots at 54 A, and 12 knots at Sunk buoy. (C. in C. Nore 1231A/30 to WANDERER.)

P.31.
P.35.

My 1211A/28/9 and my 1139A/29 para. B. Sailed P.31 and P.35, escorted by CUTTY SARK passes Bell Rock 2000A/30/9. (Capt. S.9 1505A/30.)

VICEROY.

If HEEMSKERK is not available VICEROY is to be detailed to provide A/A protection to INDOMITABLE during night of October 1/2. (C. in C. W.A. 1642A/30 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

JUNON.

French S/M JUNON, escorted by a Trawler, will be exercising in Area "D" off Plymouth between 1400 and 1800/1. (C. in C. Plymouth 1811/30.)

/CONQUEROR

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.9.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

CONQUEROR. My 1600/29. Sailed. Ship required early boiler clean. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1852/30.)

Operations.

Operation "Chopper" This operation consisted in landing fighting patrols of strength 35 all ranks each at St. Vaast (East of Cherbourg Peninsula) and St. Aubin (North of Caen) on night 27/28 Sept. Useful information was obtained. Three Germans K. or seriously W. One dead German brought back. Our casualties amounted to two K. one seriously and three slightly wounded. (D.C.O. 0922A/30 to Adty.)
Following lessons from Operation "Chopper".
(1) Carrier ship should be provided with taut wire gear and modern wireless aids to Navigation as D/R position after several hours steaming may be inaccurate.
(2) Simultaneous landings at widely separated points are difficult to achieve, and if coast is alarmed by first landing the second may get a hot reception.
(3) Echo sounding gear in M.G.B. very valuable, otherwise boat must ease down to take soundings and loses time.
(4) Accurate landing more easily achieved if towing M.G.B. guided by another M.G.B. as otherwise towing M.G.B. has to watch tows as well as navigate. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1505/29.)

East Coast Patrol. Patrol one unit Motor Gunboats vicinity of 61 B Buoy. (C. in C. Nore 1012A/30.)

BULLDOG fired at on 22/9. Your 1533A/28. BULLDOG failed to identify herself to P.W.S.S. in accordance with C.B.01718 (Q) (41) paragraph 15. BULLDOG was informed that the bring-to round was fired for this reason. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1816/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

British Air Activity.

R/C of Spanish Biscay Coast. (C) 1 Sunderland to take off forthwith and fly special shipping R/C outside Territorial Waters between meridians 3° W. and 8° W. on parallel 44° N. A/C to report any M.V. over 5000 tons by signal when well clear. A/C will not attack inside Territorial Waters. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth 0417/30.)

/Patrols

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Patrols.

The following are being flown today :-
"Hornli" - "Trost" - "Stab" - "Bert" - "Stand".
The latter two as Rover Patrols.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0850/30.)
P.R.U. Stavanger, Haugesund, Bergen in operation.
My 0850/30. "Trost", "Stab" and "Rover" "Bert" nothing to report. (C. in C. Rosyth 1502/30.)
My 1502/30. P.R.U. returned, too much cloud.
"Hornli" patrol nothing to report.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1750/30.)

Operation of Baloons and Kites.

The following rules governing the operation of Balloons and Kites by H.M. Ships, Merchant and Fishing Vessels supersede all previous instructions and are to come into force at 0001/6/41. (D.G.D. 1320A/30 and 2019A/1)
See Lion Copy.

6000 Ton M/V attacked off Lindesnaes.

At 1151 A/C C/42 sighted 1 DR, 1 MV and 1 EV in 58° 02' N. 6° 24' E. on course 130° at about 6 knots. M/V was of about 6000 tons. Description. DR was of about 1000 tons. E/V looked like an armed trawler. Attack made on M/V (with DR intervening as possible target). Torpedo dropped 700 yards from destroyer and 1100 yards from M/V. Torpedo was seen to run and miss DR and A/G reports torpedo still running strongly 200 yards from bow of M/V as A/C entered cloud.
(Pitreavie 1500/30.)

Bombing operations. ADMIRAL SCHEER.

On night 29/30, eight-four A/C attacked Stettin, starting many fires. 64 A/C attacked Hamburg, causing large fires, bombing the Altona railway station, the yards of Blohm and Voss, and registering near misses on ADMIRAL SCHEER. 5 A/C bombed the docks at Havre; and Kiel, Heligoland, Sylt, Warnemunde, Cuxhaven, and Emden were also attacked. (H.Q.B.C. 1528/30.) See Lion Copy

Sunderland II Aircraft.

Are coming into service and will be flying on 5/10. At first will be seen in S.E. England. Description. Request confirmation that all pilots and A.A. defences have been notified.
(Air Ministry 1705/30.)

INDOMITABLE.

INDOMITABLE will have two Hurricane aircraft on deck ready to fly off during passage to Clyde. C.O. has orders to use his discretion as to making use of them in the event of attack by E/A.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1826/30 to H.Q.F.C., 9th F.G.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C.79.	Help "Mission" in 56° 40' N. 2° 5' W. (CURACOA 1924/30.)
Convoy C.W.	Help "Bacon" in 51° 22' N. 1° 32' E. (BLENCATHRA 1943/30.)
Convoy F.N.25.	Enemy aircraft attacking convoy "Attempt" in 54° 59' N. 1° 11' W. (QUANTOCK 2058/30.)

Mining.

Dover area.	Sweeping carried out to 0800/30. By S.A. and L.L. trawlers Q.Z.S.191, and in Q.Z.A. 190 and 269 between Dumpton and Dover. One magnetic mine detonated in 51° 20' 25" N. 01° 35' 30" E. Q.Z.S.238, 224, and 208 by Oropesa and S.A. Trawlers in progress. (V.A. Dover 1001A/30.)
Portsmouth Area Sweep.	High percentage search eastern half old Q.Z.Y (248) completed for 2½ miles from (Southern) ? Boundary. 1 type-T mine swept in 050° 31' 18" N. 000° 54' 18" W. One static cutter swept 050° 32' 06" N. 000° 54' W. One static cutter swept and dragged. (S.O. 13 M/S.F. 1601A/30.)

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boat off Spurn Point.	One enemy war Motor Boat 100°, 18 miles from S.P.P. (SANDRINGHAM 0600/30.)
Brest.	At 0830 all three docks appear occupied as usual. Photos taken of Brest Port, but Rade cloud covered. (St. Eval 0930/30.)
German Main Units.	Latest known positions. (D.D.I.C.1216A/30.) See Lion Copy.
1 Destroyer, 1 Escort Vessel and 1 M/V.	Off Landesnaes at 1151/30. See British Air Activity.

Navigational.

Belfast.	As from 30/9 the Port of Belfast will be open to cross channel steamers and local coastal vessels at all times. For all other vessels the Port of Belfast will be closed from the Pile Light inwards during the hours of darkness. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1300/30.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.9.1941 Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

HEEMSKERK. Cancel my 1453A/29. E.R. defects prevent vessel sailing. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 0751A/30.)

NORSE LADY. NORSE LADY damaged through grounding. Salvage Officerarranging beaching ship, also necessary discharge forward deck cargo direct to coaster, probably EMPIRE TERN, to ascertain extent damage, as steamer leaks. (D.S.T.O. Iceland 1534Z/29.)

Shipping and Convoys.

C.T.4. (PASTEUR). PASTEUR should be ready to sail from Clyde 15/10.
2. Sailing will be known as convoy C.T.4.
3. Vessel will be embarked to capacity and details of personnel will be notified in due course. (D.S.T. 0200A/30.)

S.C.45. My position is 55° 25' N. 16° 46' W. - C course and speed 085° 14 knots bound for Londonderry. All corvettes except PICTOU intend to remain with S.C.45 until arrival U.K. (ST. LAURENT 1108Z/30)

Signals by Homing Convoys. Following has been received from C.in C. W.A. (Repeats C.in C. W.A. 1549A/29.) (Capt. D. Londonderry 1203A/30 to KEPPEL, DOUGLAS, MALCOLM, VENOMOUS, VETERAN, SARDONYX.)

P.Q.1. Ships, Escorts, and Route. (D.O.D.H. 1205A/30 to Ad. Miles) See Lion Copy.

W.S.12. Fuel for ROYAL ULSTERMAN and PRINCE BAUDOUIN at Ponta Delgada. Reference 1245A/20, para.7. Estimate fuel required 60 tons and 85 tons. Presume Admty. will inform necessary authorities. ROYAL ULSTERMAN, DEVONSHIRE, and SIKH have copies of Admiralty 0212/5th July 1941. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1214/30.)

VESCA Signals. A.M.2043/29. VESCA signals are to be in the following standardised form. (D.I.D. 1309A/30.)

O.N.Convoys. 1. Undertaking in Admiralty 1934A/21/8 para.(6) involves very long cypher signals since ships are diversely routed.
2. Suggest for your consideration that destination of all ships dispersed from an O.N. convoy should be included in the first daily Admiralty signal subsequent to dispersal giving the estimated daily positions of independently routed merchant ships. Thereafter these ships would be included in the squares appropriate to their 1800 G.M.T. positions daily.
3. Would this meet your requirements.
(A.C.N.S. T. 1445Z/30 to Opnav.)

/SCOTOL

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

SCOTOL.
P.W.44. Intend sailing oiler SCOTOL to R/V with P.W.44 at seaward end. Admiralty message Q.Z.S 295 at 1730/2 for passage to Milford Haven and onward routeing to Port Z.A. (N.O.I.C. Portland 1545A/30.)

W.S.12. C. in C. W.A. 1821A/27. Request you sail STANLEY and NEWARK to join Liverpool Section of W.S.12 in 304°. Mull of Kintyre Light 12 miles at 0700A/1. On being relieved WITCH and WHITEHALL are to complete with fuel at Londonderry and rejoin the convoy with despatch.
(DEVONSHIRE 1640A/30 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
C. in C. W.A. 1821A/27. Request you sail BADSWORTH, BLANKNEY, BRADFORD, LANCASTER to join Clyde section W.S.12 in 304°. Mull of Kintyre Light 12 at 0700A/1. (DEVONSHIRE 1641A/30 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
It is intended that DEVONSHIRE shall escort W.S.12 as far as the Cape Area. (D.O.D.F 1728A/30)
W.S.12 sailed 2225/30th. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 2300/30.)

H.G.73 Your 1214/30. Convoy is not to enter swept channel before 0700/1.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1728A/30 to FOWEY.)

C.F.2. Your 0330/30 and C. in C. S.A. 1715/24. It is important that Convoy C.F.2 should arrive at R/V in 49° N. 24° 40' W. during daylight 4th October.
2. Proceed at your best speed and report your E.T.A. at R/V. (D.O.D.F. 1915A/30 to CHESHIRE.)

Orders for Escort Groups. My 1230A/10. Amend sailing dates as follows :-

O.N. 22	-	October 2nd
O.S.8	-	" 3rd
O.N.S.23	-	" 4th
O.N.2	-	" 8th
O.N.S.25	-	" 10th
O.S.9	-	" 13th
O.N.26	-	" 14th

(C. in C. W.A. 1926A/30.)

S.L.88 S.L.88 proceed at best speed. Report your speed on crossing 40° N. (C. in C. W.A. 1931A/30th)

/CHILLIWACK

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

CHILLIWACK
BITTERSWEET
COLLINGWOOD
DIANTHUS
SNOWBERRY
TRAIL
SPIKENARD.

Ships addressed are to proceed forthwith at best speed to Londonderry to refuel.
(C. in C. W.A. 2157A/30 to CHILLIWACK etc.)

In view of my 2118/30 ≠ cancel my 1450Z/30 ≠≠.
(D.T.D. 2205Z/30 to Opnav.)
≠ Convoy reported by U-Boat.
≠≠ Most Secret (N.T. in W.D.)

Convoys
H.G., H.X.,
S.L., S.C.

Code Words on arrival in U.K. Following standardised procedure will be followed.
(C. in C. W.A. 2250A/30) See Summaries Folder.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

RAIDER SITUATION.

Admty. 1857A/30. See Lion Copy.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

NELSON. Entering (harbour ?) now.
(S.O. Force H, 1024A/30 to Admty.)
Your 1714A/30. Approved.
(V.C.N.S., 2223A/30 to Cdre. Supt. Gib.)

PORT CHALMERS. Arrived. Request early instructions.
(V.A.C.N.A., 1149A/30 to Admty.)

LA CARRIERE. On arrival of LA CARRIERE request you will ascertain actual latitude and longtitude positions of ship reported in her signals of 0400/27 and 1300/29. Bearing and distances were construed by Admiralty as from Lettered Position in each case.
(D.T.D. 1448A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

THORN, TRUANT. Intend to sail THORN p.m./4 for Malta. Route.
(ii) TRUANT will sail about 9/10 having been delayed at Gibraltar by defects.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1510A/30.)

H.G.74. H.G.74. Request destinations for my 1121/27.
(V.A.C.N.A., 1620A/30 to Admty.)

Cable cut. Brest Casablanca cable cut by MIRROR in 036° 52' N. 013° 24' W. at 0200A/29.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1702A/30.)

Dispersal of "Halberd" Ships. Intend to sail (i) PRINCES OF WALES, EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, ORIBI for U.K. about 1830A/1.
(ii) KENYA, GARLAND, PIORUN, 2 Force H Destroyers (LEINSTER and any merchant ships ex "Substance" for U.K. about 02(00?)A/2. 2 Force H Destroyers parting company as requisite to R/V with ARGUS in 43° N. 27° 30' W. at (?16)30A/5.
(iii) EURYALUS, FARNDALE, HEYTHROP for Freetown and MELBOURNE STAR (? for) Buenos Aires as soon as ready (? subject to) concurrence of C. in C. Med. A.M. 2345A/12 refers.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1722A/30 to Admty.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Convoy Protection.

Personal from 1st Sea Lord.
A. We have recently had one S.L. Convoy and one H.G. Convoy roughly handled by U-Boats in the area between lats. 25 N. and 32 N. on the meridian of 24 W., and that enclosed by parallels of 45 N. and 50 N. and meridians of 20 W. and 25 W., in spite of the fact that one convoy had a good escort and the other a fair one.
B. Until we can give these convoys adequate protection by local escorts we must try other means of protecting them.
C. It is probable that Admiralty by means of D.F. bearings of U-Boats may be able to forecast when trouble is likely, and Force H. would then assist either by:
(i) Reinforcing the escorts by destroyers,
(ii) Harassing the U-Boat by ARK ROYAL aircraft by day.
D. As regards C (ii), it is suggested that ARK ROYAL should operate roughly 50 miles from the convoy and harass any U-Boats attempting to make contact with, or shadow the Convoy.
E. It would be essential that ARK ROYAL should be strongly escorted by destroyers, even at the expense of using them as a hunting force.
(D.O.D.(F) 1732A/30 to S.O. Force H.)

Operation "Halberd".

Arrivals PRINCES OF WALES, KENYA, SHEFFIELD, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FURY, ORIBI 1.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1750A/30.)

FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FURY.

Your 2345/12 and F.O.C.N.A's 1722(?A)/30.
Intend to retain FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FURY until sailing date of NELSON can be forecast. If delay is too great they will be sailed to assist with escort of H.G.74.
(S.O. Force H., 1823A/30 to Admty.)

German & Italian Ship Movements.

For information. It is probable that German ships ATLAS and SULLBERG will be approaching Genoa and HANS SCHMIDT approaching Savona on 2nd or 3rd October.
Italian ship MAURO CROCE and DERNA may be leaving Genoa about the same time.
All these are trading from or to Spain.
(D.D.I.C., 2303A/30 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

German Shipping.

My 2245Z/30/7. Further report received that for last fortnight rumours have been renewed that German merchant ship is expected to arrive Mar del Plata. Also reported firms who shipped by ERLANGEN are showing signs of activity.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 0003Z/30 to S.A. Div.)

W.S.11.

DERBYSHIRE and portion of convoy W.S.11 arrived Capetown.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1103Z/30.)

ALBION STAR.

Slight damage by fire this morning caused probably electrical short circuit. Repairs will delay vessel 2 to 3 days only.
(D.E.M.S. Officer, Buenos Aires, 1245/30.)

BIRMINGHAM.

My 1521Z/28. Owing to revised routeing of PISTON vide Admty 2318A/28 intend BIRMINGHAM to operate in the vicinity of new focal area round Abrothos on completion Trinidada Sweep. Corvettes to visit Rio de Janeiro about 7/10 to advertise presence then work in same area. Request BULOLO on leaving Tristan da Cunha may now proceed to J 33 (C) and (D).
(R.A.S.A.D., 1246Z/30 to C. in C. S.A.)

Air R/C of Dakar.

Sunderland aircraft J/204 carried out R/C over Dakar p.m./29 no instructions were given for this. J/204 was then joined by C/204 and both aircraft were engaged by 4 Mohawks fighters which had followed from Dakar. One enemy aircraft probably (destroyed ?) possible other damaged. C/204 extensively holed (? and) 3 wounded recuperating. J/204 slight hull damage only. Both aircraft now at Bathurst (? making good). Reason for flight being undertaken is being investigated.
(C. in C. S.A., 1307N/30.)

HOLLY, ANCHUSA.

Arrival 30th HOLLY, ANCHUSA, the latter has completed oiling but has minor engine defect which have been taken in hand. Will be ready for sea p.m./1. Request instructions.
(D. of Nigerian Marine Lagos, 1600Z/30 to C. in C. S.A.)

/Air R/C.....

MOST SECRET

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Air R/C of Dakar.

Re my daily operation summary for 29/9. Sunderland C/204 Squadron carrying out R/C over Dakar on return from convoy escort. Centre of combat area TJW 495, 17, 20, engagement lasted about 20 minutes. Both our aircraft returned Bathurst Gambia together. R/C of Dakar not ordered and was carried out through error in briefing pilot.
(Combined Ops. Room, Freetown, 1605/30.)

Troop Transports for Berbera.

Your 1801/29.* M.W.T.R. prefer Durban for loading cargo. Request I may be informed of draught limitations Takoradi.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1639B/30 to C. in C. S.A.)
* Presumably A.M. 1801/29.

DEVONSHIRE.

A.M. 1720/24 para. (g) and A.M. 1924/23. DEVONSHIRE is to continue escort of W.S.12 to the Cape.
2. On completion of this duty DEVONSHIRE is to join the South Atlantic Station in accordance with A.M. 1532/20 June para. 8.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1752A/30.)

Task Force 3.

Future movements.
1. Group 3.6 (OMAHA, SOMERS) leave position (A) on 29/9 to arrive Pernambuco 4/10. Thence leave 5/10 for Trinidad so as to arrive 11/10.
2. Group 3.7 (MEMPHIS, DAVIS) leave Pernambuco 2/10 through position (A) on 7/10, returning Pernambuco 12/10.
3. Group 3.8 (JOUETT) leave Pernambuco 10/10 through position (A) on 15/10 returning Pernambuco 20/10. CINCINATTI having previously been detached to New York for repairs rejoins Group 3.8 at a later date.
4. Position (A) in all cases is 15° N. 26° W.
(D.O.D.(F) 1800A/30 to C. in C. S.A.)

DORSETSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE.

Admiralty 1948/18 and 1752A/30.
In view of the number of South African ratings in DORSETSHIRE there is no obligation to employ DEVONSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE in the areas for which they are designated in Admiralty 1532/20.
(D.O.D.(F) 1938A/30 to C. in C. S.A.)

/Planes.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Planes for British.

Opnav reports:- 30/9 Panamerican clippers scheduled depart Natal for Bathurst. Six twin engine Douglass transport landplanes scheduled depart about same time and follow same route 1/10. Flights are under supervision Panamerican airways for delivery of planes and personnel to British. Request U.S. Naval vessels in vicinity of route be advised to be on alert. Re communications.
(Spenavo, 2120/30 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd"

Request you will convey my thanks for most valuable assistance rendered by R.A.F. during operation "Halberd".
(S.O. Force H., 0502A/30 to V.A. Malta.)
Necessary to await arrival of remainder of force before I can supplement information contained in my 1730A/29. (ii) Press report from ARK ROYAL dealing with D.3 will be despatched to Admiralty for censorship on arrival of NELSON.
(S.O. Force H., 0910A/30 to Admty.)
Congratulations of Board of Admiralty.
(Approved 1st Lord, 1226A/30 to F.O Force H, V.A. Malta.)

Unknown A/C.

Following has been read. Unknown aeroplane(s) signification unknown 140, 32° N., 26° E., 29.
(Nore W/T, 0810/30.)

Enemy Convoy.

My 1015B/28. First sentence. This convoy is 24 hours late.
(Capt. (S)1, 1035B/30 to PERSEUS.)

Black Sea, Russian Warships Sunk.

1007C/30. B.N.L.O. Black Sea reports Russian Destroyer FRUNZE and Gun Boat RED ARMENIA were both sunk by dive bombers about 21/9 off Tendra.
(Adm. Miles, 1040/30 to Admty.)

/NEAHELLAS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

NEAHELLAS. Has developed defects. Movements.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1115B/30.)

Enemy M/V's. UTMOST. 3 Northbound merchant ships speed 10 knots expected to pass 038° 00' 012° 00' on course 30° between 0040 and 0240B/2. Endeavour to intercept before making passage to south-eastwards.
(Capt. S.10, 1140B/30, to UTMOST.)
My 1140B/30th. Swordfish will attack tonight Tuesday.
(Capt. (S) 10, 1945B/30 to UTMOST.)

Air attacks at Bardia. Night 28/29 September. 4 Albacores continued the attacks on enemy ship in Bardia Harbour obtaining 1 probable hit. 14 Wellingtons subsequently attacked 2 hits amidships and other hits on Mole and Buildings in town.
29/9. 19 Marylands with large fighter escort made further attacks. Detailsawaited.
Tomahawks made offensive sweep Bardia area.
R/C's Benghazi, Derna, Bardia, Cyrenaica Coast and for enemy shipping between Crete and Libya.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1148/30.)

RORQUAL. My 1921C/2. Repairs to periscope completed. Diving trials to 200 feet carried out satisfactorily. Proposed programme, Aegean 9/10 lay mines in accordance with special instructions proceeds Malta on completion 13/10 arriving Malta.
After short rest period Malta RORQUAL to embark full outfit of mines and sail as arranged by Capt. (S) 10th to lay as required by N.O.i/c Malta subsequently proceeding Gibraltar and U.K.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1151B/30.)
Your 1151B/30 approved.
(C. in C. Med., 1400B/30 to Capt. S.1.)

Beirut - Tunis cable. Misunderstanding likely to arise regarding Beirut/Tunis Cable. While cutting cable is simple matter from Beirut, I consider it unjustifiable to employ a valuable Cable Ship to pick up lengths of cable unless I can give her continuous fighter protection. This is essential in area concerned owing to continual T/B and bomber R/C. To provide fighter protection needed is beyond R.A.F. fighter resources without prejudicing other much more important services such as Tobruk supply. I therefore see no immediate prospects of picking up (? Beirut) Cable. Foreign Office 3357 of 26/9 to Ambassador Cairo refers.
(C. in C. Med., 1220B/30 to Admty.)

/Turkish....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Turkish Defences. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 175. Matters raised in your O/08338 of 27/9 are being discussed here. Meanwhile you should take no steps in regard to tripartite Anglo-Turkish-Russian conference or to seeking Turkish General Staff permission to construct defences in Turkish territory north of Aleppo.
(1st S.L., 1324A/30 to C. in C. Med.)

CONFEDERATE. Following is a repetition of my 1730B/27 begins C. in C. E. Is 0458/25. Sail CONFEDERATE as convenient to comply. Ends.
(C. in C. Med. 1537B/28 to S.B.N.O. Canal Area.)

PROTEUS. Area P. Summary of intelligence.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1550B/30 to PROTEUS.)

BRECONSHIRE. Request your proposals as to future employment.
(D.O.D.(F) 1723A/30 to C. in C. Med.)

PERSEUS. 2 Merchant Ships sail from 032° 04' 020° 01' p.m./2 for 032° 54' 013° 06'. Enemy naval activity may be expected in Eastern part of your area for next 2 or 3 days, together with preliminary extra air and destroyer A/S measures. The type of operation is not known but it is expected it will take place by day and cruisers may participate.
(Capt. (S) 1, 2131B/30 to PERSEUS.)

Operations of S/Ms. in Aegean. Admty. 1427A/29. Admiral Miles 1052Z/28. Analysis of British Submarine Patrol in Aegean between 1/7 and 30/9. 5 patrols carried out from Alexandria each about 21 days at sea. Sinkings. 1 U-Boat, 2 Tankers, 4 Merchant Vessels of 3,000 tons and upwards. 9 Large Schooners and Caiques heavily laden with troops. Opposition considerable with difficult conditions, often glassy calm and heavy air activity.
(C. in C. Med., 2256B/30 to Admty. for Admiral Miles.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Persian Gulf.

Your 2005 5th (i) I am assuming there is no doubt we shall occupy Persian Naval Base Khorramshahr and I intend to instruct S.N.O. Persian Gulf to proceed with diplomatic preparations forthwith. It will be invaluable to us as a M/S base and as an H.Q. Base for S.N.O. Persian Gulf and N.O.I.C. Basra.
(ii) I also intend (a) To commission 2 Persian gunboats with R.N. crews retaining remaining 2 gunboats as spares. (b) To make use of tug NEYROU. (corrupt group) vessel SHAHIN depot ship IVY and smaller craft. (iii) Inspection of the W/T Stn. shows that it is obsolete and of little value. Intend therefore to (modernize?) it and establish an adequate W/T Stn. in its place.
(C. in C.E.I., 0748Z/30, to Adty.)

China.

CLAN FORBES.

Your 0740/29. This would suit me admirably.
(C. in C. China 0245Z/30 to C. in C.E.I.)

TRANNINH (French.)

Arrival 30th.
(N.C.S.O. Manila 0648Z/30.)

S.S.TRAN-NINH. (French.)

Arrivals 30th from Haiphong with 2200 tons coal for MADRIGAL.
(C.G.Manila 1440/30.)

America & West Indies.

Casualties to S.C.46.

S.C.46 suffered following marine casualties during passage of Belle Isle Strait in dense fog.
1. EMPIRE KUDU grounded extensive salvage necessary.
2. CULEBRA grounded forward can refloat.
3. EMPIRE MALLARD sunk in collision.

/4. SOUTH.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Casualties to S.C.46. Contd.

4. SOUTH WALES ashore after collision. Back broken cargo (? salvable.)
5. EVEROJA returned to Sydney after collision with 4.
6. EMPIRE MOON returned to Sydney to have (10 groups omitted.) returned Sydney after collision with ATHELVIKING.
5,6 and 7 being repaired locally ATHELVIKING (?resuming)
(N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B.1409Z/30.)

ABGARA (Latvian)

Aground at Manati Cuba 25/9 refloated 29/9 and awaiting survey.
(S.O.(I)Jamaica 1506R/30.)

ARIMA MARU. (Jap.)

Repairing temporarily Callao.
Reported will be towed to Japan by SAKITO MARU.
(S.O.(I)Jamaica 1526R/30.)

FORT DE FRANCE
MONT VISO.

French S.S.FORT DE FRANCE, leaves Martinique for Casablanca 30/9 and MONT VISO leaves Casablanco for Martinique. Sailing of these vessels has been approved by H.M.Govt.,FORT DE FRANCE will carry a ships certificate issued by U.S Consul Martinique in lieu of ship navicert.
(B.A.D.Washington 1625R/30 to Adty.)

Ships in distress.

My 1840/29/9. Information now considered discredited. Coast Guard has two vessels in area designated.
(Opnav. 1636Z/30.)

POLYANTHUS.

Your 1534R/29. Ship will arrive as requested.
(C.C.N.F.1759Z/30 to B.A.R.M. Washington.)

Flag of B.S.3.

Flag of F.O. 3rd B.S. hauled down and H.M.S. SEABORN paid off p.m./30.
(F.O.3.B.S.18010/30.)

U.S.S/M. movement.

S/M Voyage East Coast approx. date New London to Philadelphia one boat October 2nd to 3rd.
(U.S.C of Ops., Washington 2030Z/30.)

/HARBOE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

HARBOE JENSEN.	My 1621Z/28th (?calculating) oil fuel capacity HARBOE JENSEN 30 days at speed 11½ to 12 knots consider direct routeing to Capetown would allow insufficient margin for stress of weather and possible need for diversion. Calls for bunkers are therefore necessary at Port of Spain Capetown and probably Aden. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2014Z/29 to D. of S.T.)
TRENTON Galapagos Patrol.	My 2115/22. Southeast Pacific Force. TRENTON departs Balboa 3/10 passes through following points. (O.P.N.A.V. 2128/30.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

SILVERBELLE (torpedoed 22/9.)

Your 1315/29, not to Admty., (see 0615A/30.) Offer of Admiral Naval base much appreciated. As LADY SHIRLEY is already standing by SILVERBELLE would prefer seagoing tug to be sent when ready. SILVERBELLE reported in 026° 34' N, 024° 02' W., at 0200A/28 in tow at slow speed towards Las Palmas. Towing vessel parted company 29th.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0613A/30 to Consul, Las Palmas.)
Following received from Consul Las Palmas, Addressed S.O.(I) Gibraltar Repeated Madrid (begins).- Your 1902/28[illegible]. Only Seagoing Tug undergoing repairs will be ready for sea in 36 hours has no W/T. I have therefore consulted Admiral, Naval Base, here who is willing to consult Minister at Ministry of Marine, Madrid, whether he can send Spanish Minelayer MARTE and whether he can take SILVER BELLE in tow or only standby to save lives. Admiral not making consultation until I inform him whether this suggestion acceptable to you. Please instruct. Consul's 1315/29. (Ends.)
(F.O.C.N.A., 0615A/30 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0522. Bearing by D/F at 0522 position of enemy U-boat was 069°28' N., 044° 10' E.
(S.B.N.O.Murmansk, 0926C/30.)

Estimated U-Boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1432A/30.)

1512Z. S/M reported in vicinity 045° 45' N., 054° 35' W.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1512Z/30.)

1330 G.M.T. From Senior Officer present afloat Argentia "Patrol plane reports submarine 46 10 N., 5[illegible]-50 W.,course 210 about 5 miles N.W. of convoy at 1330 G.M.T/30. Taskunit 4.1.5. and Cinclant informed. Sent to Admiralty, C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., C in C. A., and W.I., and Comdr., No Lant Nav. Coastal Frontier for information.
(Opnav 1600/30.)

/1709Z.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.9.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported-Contd.

1709Z, 1728Z, H.X. 152, reported. — A U/Boat made a sighting report at 1709Z/30 and 1728Z/30. No Fix obtainable. (D.D.I.C. 1937A/30 to WALKER, VETERAN, FOLKESTONE, ROCHESTER, MAYFLOWER, WALLFLOWER, ST. CROIX, GARDENIA, Opnav.) My 1937A/30. Further bearings indicate that convoy reported is probably H.X. 152, south of Newfoundland. (D.D.I.C. 2118A/30 to Opnav.)

Warrifal Bay. — Following has been received begins. S.O.(I) Freetown from British Consul St. Vincent. German submarines reported on the surface Warrifal Bay San Antonio 28/9. Strong local evidence in support. Letter received 29/9 reliable source states submarine arrived about 1800 transferred stores and equipment sailed 2230 course S.W. T.O.O. 1519/30. (S.O.(I) Freetown 2144N/30).

Submarines Attacked.

By DUNCAN. — C.A.F.O. 834/41. (A) DUNCAN (B) 1942 (C) 037° 28' N. 003° 44' E. (D)10 (E) (DUNCAN 0931/30).

By GURKHA (?time). — Attack successful. No prisoners but have wreckage of Italian U-boat. (GURKHA, 1140B/30 to C.S.18).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian Northern Shipping.

For Chiefs of Staff from Macfarlane. Reference M.E.W. 122 3rd July. Russians at present reluctant to move their shipping from northern waters stating ships may be useful for of mutual benefit. Inference is possibility Pressing in connection with military operations. right s on our part for moving these ships impressi of northern area gives Russians (? successfully) in north and this is unfortunate. If any movem should take place little doubt Russians would refer this to be eastwards rather than west ds. Admiral Kharnamov made proposal that as R sian northern fleet fully occupied British Nav units would be welcomed convoy about 10 ships rmansk to Archangel. Russians have already de ded upon this latter move. (Military Mission, scow, 2000/5 to War Office.)

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

REPULSE and Force H.

Your 0038/1. REPULSE's poor endurance and limited gun range make her a poor substitute for RENOWN and will considerably curtail activities of Force 'H'. In spite of NELSON's slower speed and difficult working with ARK ROYAL in light airs I consider she would prove of much greater value both inside and outside the Mediterranean if she can be spared. (S.O. Force H. 2256A/5 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Madagascar Policy.

Your 0728/19. Considered not now possible to get either Reunion or Madagascar to join Free French except by use of force. Policy of H.M.G. is to limit hostility to Vichy to Syria as long as operations there continue. Operations against these islands cannot be undertaken until Syrian campaign is closed but possibility of carrying these out after completon of Syrian campaign is being investigated. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2355B/7 to C. in C.E.I.)

China.

U.S. Asiatic Fleet, Zone

C. in C. Asiatic Fleet informs me U.S. Gov. has decided in war their submarines cannot be permitted to sink merchant ships on sight wherever found. They wish combat should be declared as necessary on outbreak of war by associated powers jointly. Am proposing to leave C. in C. Asiatic Fleet and S Z M following zone as a basis for agreed plan. That part of Far East area as defined in A B C I lying to south and west of a line joining position 030° N. (?122°) E. and 007° N. 140° E. This will leave remainder of Pacific area and waters round Japan to C. in C. Pacific Fleet to declare as he sees fit. Subject to your approval declaration would be made from here. (C. in C. China, 0449Z/7 to Admty.)

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Iraq and Iran.

For Chiefs of Staff M.E.O/79668, T.O.O. 1430/7. (1) Agreed. (2) This appreciation strengthens following recommendations I have already made to Admiralty:-
(a) Abandonment of scheme for assembly of aircraft in Iraq. (My 0743 10/6 refers).
(b) Koweit should be alternative base to Basra and not Um Qasr (My 2032 26/6 refers).
(c) A firm British lead should be given in Iran (My 0658/5/7).
(d) No further weakening of our control of Basra and Shatt el Arab (My 2028/26/6 refers).
(C. in C.E.I. 1940Z/8 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations.Volume.

14.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

U.S.11 B. In view of situation in Far East Commonwealth Gov. wish to reinforce Australian troops in Malaya as soon as possible. Intend JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT to proceed to Wellington with service personnel as in your 1615B/13. Propose she returns to Sydney without delay to embark troops and that JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT, MARNIX VAN ST.ALDEGONDE and SIBAJAK transport Brigade to Malaya. This convoy will be known as U.S.11 B. and will leave Fremantle on 6/8. (A.C.N.B.0831Z/14 to D. of S.T.)

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Destroyers. Future commitments involve the employment of all available Home Fleet destroyers and necessitate some reinforcement from other Commands.
2. (R.A.(M) to provide two destroyers and C. in C.W.A. one destroyer.
3. These destroyers will be required in the first instance to escort FURIOUS from the Clyde to Scapa on 19/7 and then remain under the orders of C. in C.H.F.
4. Operations of the 1st M/L S. must accordingly be postponed for the time being. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1658B/15 to C. in C.W.A., R.A.(M))

RENOWN, REPULSE. Are to land their torpedoes but not their tubes, at first opportunity. (1st S.L.2332B/15 to C. in C.H.F., F.O.(H)).

/East Indies ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Indian Ocean Anchorages.

In event of war with Japan it might be urgently necessary to establish planned defences for secret anchorages in Indian Ocean. Arrangements exist for seaward defences, and it is possible that coast and light A.A. defences could be provided and installed by 1st M.N.B.D.O. if available at the time, which may not be the case. Request you will consult with C. in C. India on alternative possibility of requirement being met from local resources, using six inch guns and cage holdfasts referred to in A.M. 1944B/28/6. (D. of L.D. 1157B/15 to F.O.C.R.I.N. approved V.C.N.S.)

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Rosyth.

A 235817/7. Understand special considerations referred to in Adty. 1355/29/5 regarding increasing Rosyth defences are likely to cease about 23/7. Request confirmation of date and that temporary increase of eight guns may be withdrawn. (H.Q.F.C. 2000/17 to Air Min.)

18.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

In order to make cruiser situation less acute the following steps have been taken :-
(a) LONDON has been ordered to join Home Fleet.
(b) Sailing of W.S.10 has been postponed until very early in August.
C. in C.H.F. is requested to detail an 8" cruiser as ocean escort for W.S.10 and to state when she will be available. (D.O.D(H) 0116B/18 to C. in C.H.F.)

/Movements .....

HOME SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

18.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ADVENTURE. Will be ready to sail from Milford Haven a.m./19 destination far north.
Essential that she fuels on passage as near her destination as possible. She is capable of a speed on passage of not more than 15 knots.
C. in C.W.A. is requested to sail her and C. in C.H.F. is requested to arrange for refuelling where he thinks most suitable.
(D.O.D.(H) 0118B/18 to C. in C.H.F., C. in C.W.A.)

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ADVENTURE. Russian Authorities request that ADVENTURE should R/V with one of their destroyers in 090° Cape Gorodetzki Lighthouse 10 miles. Course of approach to R/V 180°. They further request that date for R/V may be communicated now and E.T.A. at this point 24 hours before arrival there. (?Fuel) at destination will be arranged. Agreed recognition signals follow. (Head of Naval Mission, Moscow 1515C/19.)

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TIGRIS, TRIDENT. TIGRIS is to be prepared for detached service in North Russia and is required to sail as soon as ready. Report approx. date of sailing. Work on assumption that she will be away for three months and embark spares and stores accordingly. It is hoped to arrange separate transport for the large spares and reserve -torpedoes. Mosquitoes are a serious menace. I am ordering TRIDENT to return to harbour as second submarine is required to follow TIGRIS shortly. (F.O.S.2322B/20.)

/American .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

DOMINION MONARCH. Your 2043B/19. Situation as regards 6 inch cruisers is as follows. DIOMEDE not available owing to turbine repairs. CARADOC speed reduced to 15 knots except in emergency owing to turbine defect and therefore unsuitable. DESPATCH could be made available if her participation in operation "Opponent", vide my 1041Q 15, is abandoned. (ii) Under circumstances consider provision of ocean escort for DOMINION MONARCH from Panama to Halifax is a luxury. (iii) If escort is still considered essential possibly for political reason propose detail PRINCE DAVID. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1201Q/20 to Adty.)

21.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Fleet Bases. C. in C.East Indies' 0124/9.
These preparations are being made to implement plans agreed at ADA, BD and ADB conferences in accordance with policy outlined in Admty. 1135/24/2 and 1848/4/4. These plans envisage :-
(A) Use of Trincomalee during an ADA war and during Phase I of an ADB war by a force of 1 battlecruiser, 1 carrier, cruisers and destroyers.
(B) Use of Singapore during Phase II of an ADB war by Eastern Fleet.
(C) Use of secret anchorage "T" as main fleet base in Indian Ocean during Phase II of an ADB war in (?which) Singapore is not available.
2. Ceylon is therefore being prepared as :-
(A) Main hospital base for both types of war.
(B) Main storing depot if Singapore becomes unusable in either war.
3. Certain bulky consumable stores and a nucleus of ammunition reserves are being accumulated in Ceylon. (Head of M. Approved 4th S.L. 1728B/21 to C. in C. China, C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ADVENTURE. My 1515C/19. For ADVENTURE. Russian minefield has been laid to southward of 67° 30' N. and to eastward of 42° E. Soviet naval authorities request ADVENTURE should report expected time of arrival at R/V in G.M.T. (Admiral Miles 2224C/22.)

Operations.

Operation "Gideon". An operation in the English Channel conducted by V.A. Dover, is projected for the immediate future.
2. Request you will detail three destroyers for temporary service with V.A. Dover for the period concerned and inform Adty. and V.A. Dover of names of ships selected. (A.C.N.S. H. 1338B/22 to C. in C. Nore.

Adty. 1338B/22. Destroyers detailed MENDIP, CATTISTOCK and QUORN the two latter being fitted with oerlikon guns. Provision of 3 destroyers from this command will involve some reduction in the scale of protection now being provided for East coast convoys. Other commitments to be met in the immediate future are sailing of EREBUS and GOODWOOD. It was proposed to sail one destroyer from Nore with next C.W. convoy on 24/7 as C. in C. Portsmouth has provided escort for last 3 Channel convoys. Suggest that one corvette and two destroyers might be provided instead of 3 destroyers. It would be of considerable assistance if approx. date and length of time destroyers will be required could be communicated. (C. in C. Nore 1820B/22 to Adty.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.10. My 1132B/16. Convoy W.S.10 will leave U.K. on 2/8. C. in C.W.A. requested to sail ships of Liverpool section to Clyde on 31/7. DUNOTTAR CASTLE will be ready to leave Belfast p.m./2 and should be sailed to R/V with Convoy as requisite. (D.C.D.(H) 1846B/22 to C. in C.W.A., C. in C.H.F. etc.)
Para 4 cancelled (D.O.D.(F) 0056B/31)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ADVENTURE. The only information I have had of ADVENTURE's movements has come from Soviet Naval Authorities. This is not satisfactory as I have no means of (? checking) origin or accuracy of information or whether details such as those contained in my 1001C/20 are being arranged at your end or mine in addition in view of para. 3 your 1707B/19 security of future movements of H.M. ships may well be jeopardized if this procedure is continued. (Admiral Miles 1453C/23 to Adty.)
Request I may be informed as early as possible whether ADVENTURE will return to England on completion of present duty. Desire to send 12 British ex prisoners and possibly (? other) personnel also about one ton of platinum in her. (Admiral Miles 1758C/23)
For ADVENTURE. Details of operation of W/T beacons in the event of fog. (Admiral Miles 1806C/23.)

Operations.

Operation "Gideon". All available boats of the 3rd and 4th M.G.B. flotillas will be required for a projected operation in the near future.
2. They should be sailed for Portsmouth as soon as ready. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1648B/23 to C. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth.)
Adty. 1648B/23. Request boats may be sailed to Dover arriving not later than 1200/25 and that the numbers of the boats concerned may be signalled as soon as known. (V.A. Dover 1914B/23 to C. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth.)
Your 1820B/22. Request the three destroyers selected may be sailed to Portsmouth to arrive not later than a.m./25. (V.A. Dover 1919B/23.)
Your 1820B/22 and My 1333B/22. It is desired to carry out this operation with destroyers. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2208B/23.)

/China .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Sarawak Oilfields. — For Overseas Defence Committee. My 0919/22. Request confirmation that it is realized once order is given to carry out revised scheme complete destruction will take place as no alternative scheme is in force. Appreciated if some explanation could be telegraphed of circumstances in which it is envisaged that order will be given by London and particulars ahead of the warning telegram. (C. in C. China 0527Z/23 to Admty.)

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

U.S. Troops for Iceland. — Information received that U.S. Task Force 16 (Rear Admiral Giffin) leaves U.S.A. for Reykjavik about 27/7, berths will be required for one Battleship, two heavy cruisers, 9 destroyers, Transport, Storeships etc.
2. Force will return to U.S.A. when disembarkation has been completed. Tanker will remain at Reykjavik. (D.O.D.(H) 1905B/24 to A.C.I.C.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Indian Ocean. — Your 1157/15 F.O.C.R.I.N. has asked for positions of secret anchorages to enable him to reply. In anticipation of approval copy of envelope M 00623/37 of July, 1939, is being sent to him. (C. in C.E.I. 1442Z/24 to Admty.)

China.

Sarawak Oilfields. — Chiefs of Staff No. F.E.17. Denial of oil scheme outlined in C. in C.China's 0919Z/22 does not appear to meet the need for a thorough-going demolition scheme designed to prevent Japanese drawing any oil from Miri oilfields for an indefinite period. Report how long scheme described in above signal would deny oil to Japanese, assuming they brought special machinery for repair. An expert is being sent as soon as possible. (1st S.L.1136B/24 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ADVENTURE. Your 1758C/23 and your 1453C/23. Intend ADVENTURE should return to U.K. on completion of her present duty. Request you will arrange embarkation of personnel and stores so that she is not delayed.
Following personnel and stores embarked.
It is not clear what other information you require. The instructions regarding her route and R/V are in accordance with your 1515C/19, 1001C/20 and 1014C/20. (A.C.N.S.(H) 0108B/25 to Admiral Miles, Moscow.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Sarawak Oilfields. Following from Overseas Defence Committee.
Your 0527/23. Object of instructions contained in M.O. 10 of 18/7 to C. in C. Far East was to ensure that when order is given the destruction of oilfields, refinery, pipelines, etc. shall be as complete as possible. This is confirmed by Chiefs of Staff telegram No. F.E.17 to C. in C. Far East.
Realised that decision to execute scheme will consequently be harder to give than heretofore, and it is partly for this reason that it will no longer be automatically given by issue of warning telegram instituting the precautionary stage against Japan. It is unlikely that instructions would be given from London ahead of the warning telegram but they would be issued at any time if there were sure information of the imminence of a Japanese attack threatening the oilfields. Governing factor is that in no circumstances should oilfields fall into Japanese hands intact. Are we right in assuming that there will be no emergency scheme as previously understood but that complete scheme will be capable of being carried out on discretion of local commander in the short time available in a sudden emergency ? (1st S.L. 0023B/25 to C. in C. China.)
Your 1136 (?24).
Time taken to repair or replace damaged plant would depend on completeness of preparations made by Japanese. Estimated repairs of sea loading line would take 6 to 9 months during which oil could only be got away in comparatively small quantities. Destruction of oil wells by explosives or plugging with cement or flooding with water would not be permanently effective at Seria which is a new field. Request I may be informed of any further measure which your experts consider might be of value. (C. in C. China, 0443Z/25 to Admty.)

Your 0023/25

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Sarawak Oilfields contd.

Your 0023/25. Old emergency scheme which consisted in blowing up sea loading lines is included in new destruction scheme as described in my 0919/22. Instructions have been issued that should a definite attack be imminent O.C. Troops Lutong has authority for putting whole destruction scheme into force. (C. in C. China, 0909Z/25 to Admty.)

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.8 C.

Convoy W.S.8 C. consisting of about 20 ships will proceed to Scapa for exercises early in August. (V.C.N.S. 2003B/26 to C. in C.H.F., A.C.O.S., C. in C.W.A.)

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian Warships for U.K.

Your 1726/15. Every destroyer and submarine which the Russians can send to this country will be welcomed.
Essential that spare gear, torpedoes, and ammunition should accompany the vessels.
Any repair and depot ships available should accompany the men of war.
Proposed area of operations cannot be decided until Russian units have arrived in U.K. and are operationally ready for service, but their most suitable employment would be on N. and N.W. coasts of Norway. (1st Lord 1758B/27 to Admiral Miles.)

ADVENTURE.

Soviet naval authorities have made following amendments to my 1800/23. (Admiral Miles, 1708C/27.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

23.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

Task Force 16.

My 1905B/24. Task Force 16 comprising one aircraft carrier, one battleship, two heavy cruisers, one cargo ship, one oiler, one transport, one provision ship, and seven destroyers leaves position 40 miles south of NANTUCKET Lightship at 1500 G.M.T./28 for Iceland (C) routed through positions :-
45° N. 40° W.
55° N. 37° W.
55° N. 33° 15' W.
60° N. 28° 20' W.
2. Force expects to arrive Iceland (C) 2300/4/8. (D.O.D.H. 1045B/28 to A.C.I.C.)

Operations.

Operation "Chess".

Preliminary enquiries show that landing was effected about 0200. Raiding parties were held up by wire defences and had to withdraw after about 15 minutes owing to heavy fire being opened on A.L.C. A.L.C picked up by covering force of M.L's at about 0650 when about 10 miles South East of Dover. Casualties one naval officer and one naval rating killed. (V.A. Dover 0951B/28.)

Operation F.B.

My 1432/26 as amended by my 2231/26 and my 0059/27. Request dummy messages for NIGERIA on broadcast H.D. at normal level from 1200B today for four days. (C. in C.H.F. 0955B/28 to Adty.)

Mining.

RUBIS Proposed minelaying.

RUBIS will be ready to sail about 14/8. Propose she scatters about 10 mines within one mile of each of following positions:-
(a) 058° 19.5' N. 006° 08' E.
(b) 058° 27.5' N. 005° 46' E.
(c) 058° 34' N. 005° 37' E.
Mines would be laid about 22/8 and propose they be set to sink about 30 days later. (F.O.S. 1209B/28.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

3rd Battle Sqdn.

Consequent on U.S. Gov. dispositions it has been decided that 3rd B.S. should be gradually withdrawn from North Atlantic Convoy escort force. (2) As immediate action:
(a) RAMILLIES will be sailed from Iceland to U.K. to be taken in hand for refit.
(b) ROYAL SOVEREIGN is to have her refit at the Clyde extended in order to undergo certain alterations which time has precluded during her three weeks' stay.
3. As soon as one of these ships has completed, REVENGE will be withdrawn for similar attention. (Probable she will be relieved temporarily by either RAMILLIES or ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)
4. RESOLUTION will return to U.K. on completion of her refit and will recommission ready for her new service. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1524B/29 to R.A.3.)

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Black Deep War Channel.

Consideration of alternative route for warships has led to conclusion that in event of invasion a channel through Black Deep must be able to be used both by day and night.
Safety of navigation and accuracy of minesweeping require that this channel be marked by certain additional light buoys, the lights of which should normally be extinguished but which can be lighted at short notice.
Request therefore, the following arrangements may be made. (C. in C. Nore, 1336B/30.)

/Operations .....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation. Request you will make the following allocation of craft.
(1) Additions to PUMA.
(a) The 6 A.L.C. previously earmarked for THRUSTER
(b) One M.L.C.
(c) Six R. Boats ex PRINCE PHILLIPE.
(d) Two M.L.C. to NIGERIAN as previously detailed.
(2) Exercise "Spearhead".
(a) PRINCE LEOPOLD Raiding Flotilla of 8 R. Boats to be attached to PRINCE CHARLES temporarily.
(b) Two of the T.L.C. referred to in my 1441B/30 are to arrive Kirkwall by noon/9th.
All allocations referred to in (1) will be required in approximately ten days' time.
Allocations referred to in 2 (a) should be completed by the 5th. (D.T.S.D. 1502B/30 to V.A.C.T.C.

Operation E.F.V.4. Can operate until 4/8 unless oiler OLIGARCH available for refuelling. (C.S.I 2121/30 to C. in C.H.F.)

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation E.F.V.4. Your 0141B/31. No further information shipping. Oiler OLIGARCH ordered to position screen 077° 30' N. 011° E. by 1200/31 and subsequently as ordered by S.O. Force A.
(ii) Operate at your discretion to limit of present endurance and return, informing me when you will pass west of longitude 20° E.
(C. in C.H.F. 0501B/31 to F.O.C. 1st C.S.)
VICTORIOUS now reports hits on two of merchant vessels are probable, not certain. Four enemy aircraft certain two probable. One shadowing Dornier shot down 1330 to-day. Something fishy about Tanafiord. From W/T indication escort destroyers were operating off entrance all yesterday with aircraft. R/C (?prevented) 0400 to-day by (?4) patrolling aircraft. Suspect its use for sea borne force. Can our Blank Ally investigate? My position 2359/31 40 miles N.E. Bear Island whence FURIOUS detached. Meditating (?attack) Tromso, Hammerfest, or Tana. Where are fighters ? German recognition signals used to good effect. (C.S.1 1925/31 to C. in C.H.F.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

1.8.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.10 X.

A special convoy to be known as W.S.10 X. consisting of 3 M.T. Ships and two transports, speed 15 knots, containing 150 tanks, vehicles, and about 6,000 personnel will leave U.K. on 16/8 for M.E.

2. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will probably accompany this convoy.

3. Escort:-

(a) U.K. to Freetown - Home resources.

(b) Freetown to Cape area - C. in C.S.A. is requested to make DUNEDIN and EAGLE available, making other arrangements for Nigerian Brigade.

(c) C. in C.E.I. is requested to provide a cruiser to take over escort, if necessary using Force "T".

4. F.O.I.C. Simonstown is requested to keep N.L.O. Durban informed as necessary. (V.C.N.S. 2336B/1.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

1.8.1941.
Friday

HOME COMMANDS

Co-operation with Russia

Anti-Mining Devices.

Reference paragraph 3 of Chiefs of Staff number 724 4/7 and my 1026C 25/7. As a result of his visit it is now known that Soviet Navy is experimenting along similar line to us with Hammers in Boxes. I suggest the time has now come for us to hand over the Kango Hammers and relevant instructions. Apart from helping the Russians I think we may well benefit from their help as they are undoubtedly clever in the theoretical investigation anti mining methods. (Admiral Miles 1044/1.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

B.D. plans Convoys required in Indian Ocean.

My 1640/26. Require early information on the following points.
2. Para G. Confirmation that return convoys to Colombo and Australia will be run bearing in mind desirability of maintaining oil supplies to Australia from N.E.I. for as long as possible. The latter amounts to about 10 tankers per month each way in addition to the 10 ships mentioned in para F (ii)
3. Para H. Details of arrangements made with Dutch C. in C. concerning Dutch Ships in our convoys giving approximate numbers if possible.
4. Your intentions with regard to shipping in the area between Singapore and Thursday Island on the outbreak of hostilities.
5. Any additional proposals for the diversion on outbreak of hostilities and subsequent routeing of shipping Westbound from America for ports other that Australasia.
6. Assembly port in Australia to be used for Australia-Singapore Convoys.
7. Confirmation that Commodores for Colombo-Singapore and Australian-Singapore convoys can be provided from local resources.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1847B/1 to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B.)
Reply: C. in C. E.I., 0956Z/8.

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

2.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Thames Estuary. War Channel.

Your 1336B/30. The following amendment is proposed:- Para i (a) Position to be 51° 45' N., 1° 30' 30" E.
It is further proposed to move Sunk Head Light Buoy to 51° 45' 36" N., 1° 29' 30" E. and to arrange so that it can be lit at the same time as the light buoys mentioned in para (iii)
Please say if you concur.
(D. of N. 2120B/2 to C. in C. Nore.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

MANCHESTER

Your 1943B/1. Work of clearing away wreckage seriously delayed by oil fuel and not yet complete. Estimates at least two months required for temporary repairs to make vessel seaworthy for voyage to refitting port.
(Cdre. Supt., Gib. 1632B/2 to Admty.)

China

Sarawak

For Overseas Defence Committee. Miri oil denial. After consultation with Representative from Sarawak oil field I am not satisfied that present scheme will achieve its object unless started in ample time, namely, day rather than hour before an attack takes place, as removal of skilled personnel is equally important to destruction of material.
4. If denial of oil to Japanese is of far greater importance than continuance of production for us I consider this could best be achieved by commencing now the old general denial scheme consisting in removal of essential parts of machinery and majority of technicians to Singapore. If this is completed the object is largely achieved but small party would be left to do as much destruction as possible if an attack appeared probable.
(C. in C. China, 0537Z/2 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

3.8.1941.
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Co-operation with Russia

Para 1. All facilities (? being arranged) by local authorities and adequate accommodation for all.
Para 2. Satisfaction expressed on raid on Petsamo but C. in C. keen for our surface forces to attack enemy transport(s) on passage via North Cape. Pointed out that this probably best achieved by submarine. C. in C. obviously wishes to be kept wise and to be able to operate Soviet Union force in area East of 15° E. which he states ordered to be kept clear until 6/8.
Para 3. Large quantity of oil fuel said to be ordered by Admiral Vian arriving here. C. in C. request whether we wish delivery continued also whether R.A.F. fighters for which aerodromes being prepares are likely to arrive.
Para 4. Soviet Union claim following local successes:
(a) 4000 tons transport torpedoed by S/M anchored at Hornigsvig 071° N., 026° E., 15/7.
(b) Minesweeper sunk by S/M off Varda ? 070° 23' 031° 10'.
(c) U Boat sunk by destroyer 068° 20' 039° 40'.
(d) German destroyer KARL GARLSTER sunk by air attack Kirkness 25/7.
Para 5. Authorities confident situation Murmansk front. No air attack here past week, no material damage. (S.B.N.O. Polyarno 2244C/3.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Operation "Countenance"

Your 2359/1/8. (1) Following is an extract of ARMINDIA's 1022 4/G (1022 4/1X) of 30/7 to Trooper Agree that on Military grounds the occupying of Bushire is undesirable but Viceroy being consulted on political considerations in view of importance of safeguarding position of Resident who controls whole Persian Gulf. Meanwhile suggest alternative of stationing warship off Bushire in opening phases of operation if one can be available.
(2) I had this contingency in mind when making my 1340/31/7 to you. No further demands have been made on me by S.N.O.P.G.'s appreciation on "Countenance" not yet received.
(C. in C. E.I., 0638Z/3 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

5.8.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Co-operation with Russia

Russian S/M's for Murmansk.

Information that S/M reinforcements from Baltic via Stalin Canal expected shortly. No official information. Admiralty pass to F.O.(S) (British S.N.O. Murmansk 1436C/5)

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

KANIMBLA

My 0638/3. (?KANIMBLA) is being diverted to Bahrein to be available in event of decision to carry out expedition to Bandur Shapur concurrently with "Abadan" operations.
(C. in C. E.I., 0028Z/5 to Admty.)

China

LE TRIOMPHANT

Left U.K. 2/8 at request of Admiral Commanding F.N.F.L. for Tahiti on a special mission via Panama Canal. LE TRIOMPHANT has been instructed that if a Far Eastern War breaks out after her arrival within the limits of New Zealand Station she is forthwith to place herself under immediate operational control of N.Z.N.B. and under strategic control of C. in C. China.
(V.C.N.S., 0105B/5 to C. in C. China)

6.8.1941
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Anchorages, Indian Ocean.

Admty. 1157/15/7. Estimated time of shipment, landing and installation.
(A) 2½ weeks if Arol platforms are used.
(B) 6 weeks with cage holdfasts. These estimates are exclusive of time on passage from India to Anchorage.
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 1050Z/6 to Admty.)

/Diego Garcia.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

6.8.1941.
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

Diego Garcia — Admty. 1157/15. Desired to proceed with installation of 2 6" guns at Diego Garcia in addition urgently. Request estimate of date when this can be undertaken.
(D. of L.D. 1748B/6 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

7.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

RODNEY — Programme for RODNEY as follows:- Complete refit 13/8. Leave Boston 21/8. Newport, Rhode Island, 22/8 degaussing, calibration. Bermuda 24/8. Complete working up and propose to be ready to sail 9/9.
(B.A.R.M. 1542R/7 to Admty.)

10.8.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Casualties & Defects

ARETHUSA
SHROPSHIRE — Your 1037B/8. Earliest date that ARETHUSA can be accepted is 23/8 at Palmer's Hebburn-on-Tyne. To fit H.A. armament and R.D.F.Types 284 and 271 in addition to repairs anticipate 5 to 6 weeks will be required. (A.C.N.S. (H) 0020B/10 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 0020B/10. (?All) work on ARETHUSA could be completed in 5 to 6 weeks without dislocating merchant ship repairs and transfer of labour from other vital commitments. This will also affect date SHROPSHIRE can be accepted.
(N.O.I.C. Tyne, 1636/10)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

11.8.1941.
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

DUKE OF YORK — Should leave Clydebank at 1200/7/9 and proceed down river. She should then proceed outside Cumbrae Island for short steam trial and on conclusion anchor at Tail of the Bank.
2. C. in C. H.F. is requested to provide destroyer escort for steam trial.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange special fighter escort, observing that the ship will not be worked up.
A.C.N.S. (H) 1855A/11 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A.)
DUKE OF YORK should sail from Tail of the Bank about 0600/9/9 for Rosyth, where she should arrive p.m./10.
2. C. in C. H.F., is requested to provide surface ship and A.S. escort, and to make all arrangements for this movement direct with C. in C. Rosyth and C. in C. W.A.
3. Request special fighter escort may be provided during daylight hours.
4. 5.25" and pom-pom trials will be carried out during daylight 9/9 and 10/9.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1857A/11 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A.)

Operations

FURIOUS — My 1958/8 para 1. Loading will not commence until 24/8.
(D.N.A.D. 1300A/11.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

Thailand Operation "Sandwich" — "Sandwich" if ordered will go through regardless of Thai opposition. Owing to need for secrecy we cannot start previous propaganda with object of persuading Thais that we are defending Southern Thailand for them against Japanese. Very desirable to cultivate Thai friendliness actively from now onwards so as to render it more likely that when the time comes the Southern Thais will accept our troops as protectors rather than invaders.
(C. inC. Far East, 1926/11 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

14.8.1941.
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

INDOMITABLE — Anticipate will be ready to leave Barrow on 7/9 for Liverpool, where she should arrive a.m. 8/9.
2. C. inC. W.A. is requested to arrange for the move and provide the necessary escort.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1652A/14)

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

Shipping — A.C.N.B. 0924/12 para (d) confirmed. Para (e) concurring proposals for diversion of shipping on outbreak of war. Ships bound for Malayan ports diverted South of Java should call or close Chilachap for orders before proceeding through Sunda Strait. (C. in C. China, 0325Z/14 to Admty.)

Mining Policy. — Mining Policy in event of War spreading to Far East agreed with (Corrupt Group) is to close all Passages through Rhio Archipeligo except Rhio Strait, where Passage will be left behind West of Pan Reef and Bulan Strait which is considered unnavigable except to local Craft of shallow draft Details of proposed prohibited Area will be forwarded. Dutch to lay Mines in their Territorial Waters only. An additional 40 Mines have been transferred to them. I have agreed to complete Mine Field in Durian Strait from own resources.
(C. in C. China, 0533Z/14 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

15.8.1941.
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

River Class Submarines.

A.M. 1333A/14.
Owing to shortage of submarines in Home Waters it is not al ways possible to fill submarine patrol positions in the Bay of Biscay. Intend therefore that the Biscay West area should become available for the River Class submarine from Gibraltar.
2. Limits of Biscay West area are 44° N., and 45° N., 7° W. and 9° W.
3. When sailing a submarine to operate in Biscay West area F.O.C.N.A. is requested to signal expected time of passing into limits of Home Stations. From that time until submarine again leaves limits of Home Stations F.O.(S) is requested to be responsible for
(a) Operating S/M
(b) Passing intelligence
(c) Arranging bombing restrictions.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2249A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.,F.O.S.)

East Indies

Crozet and Kerguelen Is. to be examined.

(i) Intend to send AUSTRALIA to examine Crozet and Kerguelen Islands. A.M.1825/12 and 1851/2 to C. in C. S.A. only refers.
(ii) Approximate programme

Arrive	Place	Leave
19/8	Durban	20/8
a.m./24/8	Crozet Island	p.m./25/8
a.m./28/8	Kerguelen Island	p.m./30/8
6/9	Durban	Blank

(iii) Return route will be made through approx. position 035° S., 058°. It is estimated that if Far East situation demanded AUSTRALIA return to Fremantle from Crozet or Kerguelen direct she would arrive with not less that 25% fuel remaining.
(iv) N.O.I/C Simonstown is requested to supply AUSTRALIA with copy of NEPTUNE's 0503/26/10/40 and 1416/26/10/40.
(v) AUSTRALIA is required for escort of C.M. 18 from Durban about 11/9/41.
(C. in C. E.I. 1428Z/15 to Admty.)

China

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. F.E. 27. Begins: Your 285/4 dated 13/8. Leaving aside all political questions are plans for complete mutual co-operation with the Dutch based on A.D.A. Report? Netherlands Authorities in London have some doubts. Ends. (1st S.L. 1442A/15 to C. in C. China)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

17.8.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Russian Minefields

Two Soviet minefields in areas enclosed by following:
1. Entrance to White Sea
(a) 67° 12' N., 41° 48' E.
(b) 67 15 N., 43 33 .5 E.
(c) 67 01 N., 41 48 E.
(d) 67 05 .6 N., 43 30 .5 E.
2. Gulf of Kandalaksha
(a) 66° 41' N., 33° 30 .5 E.
(b) 66 37 .3 N., 33 27 E.
(c) 66 35 .2 N., 33 29 E.
(d) 66 32 .7 N., 33 39 E.
(e) 66 39 .6 N., 33 44 E.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk 1241C/17)

18.8.1941.
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Operation "Gauntlet"

Request:
(a) W/T arrangements with Polyarno W/T station as arranged by Admiral Vian may be put into force from 1200A/27 till 1200A/8/9.
(b) W/T beacon facilities as arranged in Admiral Miles 1708C/27/7 and 1806/23/7 (Not to C.S.1. and S.O. Force "A") may be available from 0800A/28 till 0800A/1/9.
2. Details of (b) have been communicated to C.S. 1. and S.O.Force "A".
(C. in C. H.F. 1807A/18 to Admty.)

Mining

Intend to lay deep field S N 22 B with AGAMEMNON screened by NEWARK approximately between lat. 059° 03' 30" N., and 059° 07' N., and long. 006° 37' W., and 007° 01' W., a.m. on 23/8.
(R.A.M. 1814/18)

/R.A.F.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

18.8.1941.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia & New Zealand

R.A.F. Personnel

Re arrangements for conveyance of Air Force trainees to Canada, understand numbers requiring conveyance by first Matson Line sailing about 19/9 are 500 from Australia 256 from New Zealand. Matson Line advise they cannot accommodate more than 600 in this sailing. Presume full use will be made of accommodation available in AORANGI and CAPETOWN CASTLE up to limits laid down in Admiralty 1744/16/7. Further opportunity will occur by ATHLONE CASTLE in Mid-September. Report whether above opportunities will cover your September requirements.
(D.S.T. 0334A/18 to A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B.)

19.8.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Operation Q.L. (i)

My 2214A/18. Operation Q.L. (i) Force taking part: one unit of M.Ls (Motor Launches) with covering force of one unit of M.G.B's to be detailed later.
(ii) Execution. On receipt of signal to carry out operation Q.L. (i) M.L's are to be sailed to arrive Aldeburgh Buoy at 2030, thence to 52° 13'N 2° 45' E then direct to position of lay, returning by same route. Estimated speed of advance 18 knots from 2030.
M.G.B's are to be sailed to R/V with M.L's at 2030. They are to remain in company with M.L's until dark then proceed through R.N.W.E. 1345 to R.N.H.A. 1848 and establish patrol 300° - 120° 5 miles either side of that position A patrol is to cease in time to pass R.N.W.E. 1345 at 0500 thence to Aldeburgh Buoy and base.
If M.L's are met they are to be escorted to Aldeburgh Buoy.
(iii) M.L's are to employ evasive tactics and should avoid becoming engaged with enemy surface craft.
M.G.B's should not engage enemy craft other than E boats, unless called to assist M.L's.
Full challenge procedure must be used after leaving patrol.

/(iv).....

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

19.8.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

(iv) M.L's are to maintain strict W/T silence unless it is essential to call assistance. Amended E.T.A. must only be made on return after passing Aldeburgh Buoy.
(v) Fighter protection will be asked for from time of leaving base until 2030 and escort from 2030 until darkness. Fighter patrol between R.N.W.E. 1345 and Aldeburgh will be asked for between dawn and 0630.
(C. in C. Nore, 1446A/19)

Shipping & Convoys

W.S. 11.
FURIOUS

A.M. 1818A/18, not to FURIOUS V.A. 2. or D.4. FURIOUS will leave Clyde with Convoy W.S. 11 on 30/8. COSSACK and ZULU will provide additional escort in accordance with A.M.2258A/15. When Convoy splits at position X destroyers of 4th D.F. and 9th Escort Groups will escort FURIOUS to Gibraltar, F.O.C.N.A. is requested to provide routes.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1433/19 to C. in C. W.A., FURIOUS)

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Gibraltar Evacuation

My 1300B/14/5. Assume that gist of War Office A.A.(4) 091/3314 T.O.O. 0130/29/7 to C. in C. Gibraltar para 6. has been communicated to you. 2. Admty. consider such an arrangement most necessary and assume you are taking necessry measure to implement Naval commitments. Request confirmation that in arrangements for evacuation of Naval Personnel under seige conditions sufficient communication staffs and other personnel will remain to ensure that R.D.F. information of passage of enemy ships through Straits will be sent to H.M.Ships concerned.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2322A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic

Operation "Cutting"

My 1702B/3/6 1941. Request you will arrange for LADY DENISON PENDER to carry out operation of cutting and picking up at least 60 miles of the Dakar-Pernambuco cable. In order to clear American Neutrality Zone this should be done in the area between 8° N., and 6° N. The limitation "W. of 30° W." is removed. Request you will provide escort of at least one Corvette.

/2.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

19.8.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Operation "Cutting" -Contd.

2. On completion of operation LADY DENISON PENDER should be sailed to Capetown for refit The Libreville-Cotonou diversion will be carried out later.
3. If the operation cannot be completed by 27/8 it may be necessary to postpone it. Request report.
(D.S.D. Approved A.C.N.S. (F) 2354/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

East Indies

Diego Garcia Defences.

Admty. 1748/6 and your 0900/9. Total demand on India is now for personnel for six batteries of two guns each. Guns for Diego Garcia should be provided from those detailed in Admty. 1944/28/6. Request confirmation that cage holdfasts are now available for all six guns. It should be arranged that as soon as these have been despatched remaining four are situated at readiest point for despatch to T. As T. is of higher priority than Diego Garcia, arrangements must be made to divert accordingly if need for T. arises before installation at Diego Garcia starts. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2331A/19 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

20.8.1941.
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Operation S.N. 70 A.

Intend subject to cover being available as in my 1224/13 to carry out operation S.N. 70 A. as follows.
(F) from (i) 064° 34' 30" N., 012° 52' 00" W.
through
(ii) 064° 40' 12" 012° 45' 00" to
(iii) 065° 08' 48" 012° 49' 18".
(G) 1630/23
(H) Surface minefields from South to North

/D. one.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

20.8.1941.
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Operations S.N. 70 A. -Contd.

D. one. SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, PORT QUEBEC, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN, NEWARK.
(j) through position
(i) 055° Butt of Lewis 5 miles
(ii) 063° 17' N., 012° 48' W.
(iii) 064° 35' 013° 30'.
(k) 13 knots
(l) 0815/25/8
(n) through position
(i) 060° 23' N., 006° 50' W.
(ii) 059° 44' 005° 28'
(R.A.(M) 1134A/20)

Operation S.N. 22 B.

My 1814A/18. Now intend to carry out operation S.N. 22 B as follows:
(a) Deep minefield
(d) AGAMEMNON, NEWARK cleared from
(i) 059° 07' N., 006° 37' W. through
(ii) 059° 03' 42" N., 006° 45' 18" W. and
(iii) 059° 07' N., 006° 54' W., to
(iv) 059° 04' 18" N., 007° 01' W.
(g) 2140 21/8.
(j) Through
(i) 058° 30' N., 005° 36' W.
(ii) 276° Subayisker 8.5 miles
(l) 0700 22/8.
(p) Port Z.A. 1715/22.
Request air A/S escort from first light August 22 until again southward Butt of Lewis.
(R.A.M. 1058A/20)

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Operation "Countenance"

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 160. Warning Order. H.M.G. have decided to authorise Operation "Countenance" and are agreeing date of move with Soviet Government. This date will be communicated late and is likely to be 22/8.
(1st S.L. 2158A/20 to C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

21.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Indian Ocean Defence measures.

I have received a lengthy questionaire from F.O.C.R.I.N. requesting information in order to site and mount guns referred to in Admty. 1157/15/7 and Admty. 1748/6/8. Questionaire includes such matters as erection of barracks, local water supplies and arrangements for evacuating casualties. I propose to reply in following sense. "I appreciate that without information you ask for it is not possible to give an accurate estimate of the time required for landing and installation, nor can you give army such full details as they would like for their preparations.
In view of the extremely secret nature of this matter and the reorganisation of future policy it must be accepted that authorities should make all preparation for landing these guns in places which have no piers or unloading facilities and for mounting them in positions which have not been reconnoitred and where there are no roads or local resources whatever.
I visualise one ship for each anchorage carrying material and personnel. Working parties to be under canvas. Ship to provide drinking water."
(C. in C. E.I., 05422/21 to Admty.)

22.8.1941.
Friday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

S.N. 15.

My 1037/19. Propose to carry out operation S.N. 15 passing through Pentland Firth Eastward at 0630 and Westward at 2030 on 1/9.
(ii) Field to be laid with sterilized Mark 20 units from 4 ships of 1st M/L.S. from 058° 38' N 001° 26' W. to 057° 52' N., 000° 59' W.
(iii) Escort to consist of two of 17 Division, MANXMAN, one Hunt one A/A ship. It is not considered WELSHMAN will be sufficiently worked up to take part.

/(iv).....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume

22.8.1941
Friday

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N.15 contd. (iv) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange adequate continuous fighter escort during daylight hours.
(v) Any postponement would mean less favourable conditions of moon and tide.
(R.A.M. 1229/22.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Have heard from Russian staff who in turn obtained gratifying information from Russian Mission London that following equipment is being sent out with convoy:-
(a) Predictor.
(b) Sound Locator.
(c) Radio equipment for night firing.
Please confirm and give details of radio equipment. Will equipment be accompanied personnel to erect and explain mechanism.
(No.30 Mil.Mission, Moscow, 1115/22 to War Office)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Pacific Routeing Plans. Your 2010/19. Concur generally in Pacific Routeing Plans but in view of reply to A.M. 1847/1 Para.(iv) and (v) contained in my 0535/9 consider Torres Strait should be included in closed area. Subject to remarks of A.C.N.B. suggest line of Sandakan Fiji should be changed to Brisbane or Cape York Fiji.
(C. in C. China 0503Z/22 to Adty.)

23.8.1941
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Operation "Benedict". Your Air 459 21/8. Instructions already given that aircraft are not to fly off carrier till R.A.F. ground party ready to receive them at aerodrome. Ground party have wireless capable of communicating with carrier. Wireless with aerodrome party includes V.H.F. D/F for homing.

/Therefore ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

23.8.1941
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Operation "Benedict" contd.

Therefore aircraft will not be led. Flying off will take place East of line North and South through Murmansk within 100 miles of coast and 200 miles of Voyengo.
(Air Ministry 1445/23 to Britlistaf, Moscow.)

Proposed S/M Patrol.

C.N.S. told me today that he would like to maintain one submarine on patrol in Vest Fiord Narvik Approaches for a minimum of a month if we had no objection. Please let me have your views. 17120/23.
(Ad. Miles 1758/23 to Adty.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Fuelling Base, Sumatra.

Your 0423/4 and A.T. 1939/21. We feel that a fuelling base on west coast of Sumatra might be very useful in addition to "W". Tapanuli and Padang (Emmahaven) have been considered. Request your views after consultation with Dutch authorities. You may inform Dutch that we can provide two 6-inch guns and indicator nets for defence of base selected.
(D. of P. Approved V.C.N.S. 1409A/23 to C. in C. China.)

24.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operations "Dervish" "Benedict", ELECTRA. Force M.

To avoid air observation position F for Frank only is changed to 075° 0' N. 8° 30' E. Remaining groups dummies.
(C.S.1 1306A/24 to ELECTRA.)
Force M. will operate as close escort for operations "Dervish" and "Benedict".
2. Force M. consists of DEVONSHIRE flying flag of C.S.1, SUFFOLK, VICTORIOUS and 3 destroyers.

/3 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume

24.8.1941
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operations "Dervish" "Benedict" ELECTRA. Force M. contd.	3. Force M. will part company with Convoy "Dervish" in position Z and proceed to Spitzbergen to fuel, subsequently rendezvousing with ARGUS in a position to the West of 15° E. 4. After flying off operation Force M. will escort ARGUS to a position to the West of 15° E. (V.C.N.S. 1453A/24 to Ad. Miles.) H.F. 001325/418 of 12th August Communication Appendix as amended by C. in C. H.F. 2004A/18/8. Request messages may be repeated on Rugby as in para. 2 of Appendix and also on all occasions if a unit is at Spitzbergen or East of 35° E. (V.A.2. 1624A/24 to Adty.)

25.8.1941.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Diego Garcia.	Your 2331/19 (? Request) Troopers be informed 6 2 - gun batteries required. Troopers have (?instructed) Arm India in their 85717 22nd to raise only 5 2 - gun batteries. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 0911Z/25 to Admty.)

26.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

War Plans.	Your 1958/21. Confirmed that detailed plans are well advanced for employment of force likely to be available should war spread to the Far East now. These plans allow for participation of U.S.A. but are also applicable to B D report. Plans for situation when reinforcements are available and as resources improve are in hand.

/(11) .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

26.8.1941
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

War Plans contd.

(ii) Requirements to provide plans under existing conditions are small; for example, the provision of Liaison Officers for Dutch and U.S. ships, as these plans were prepared to make the best of existing resources.
(iii) Requirements as preparations proceed will depend largely on the information received from Admty. as to steps that are being taken. In these circumstances it is difficult to give an accurate forecast of requirements, but those in view now and which can be forecast will be forwarded separately by signal on the assumption that only limited resources of personnel and materials are likely to be available for the Far East at this stage.
(C. in C. China, 0411Z/26 to Admty.)

27.8.1941
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Madagascar
Reunion.

My 2355/7/7. For your information :-
A. Our object in relation to Madagascar is to check Vichy activities which may be hostile to us and to deny the island to the Japanese.
B. Capture of island by force is out of the question at present and is politically undesirable. Policy is therefore to control any undesirable Vichy activities or Japanese infiltration by presence of U.S. observers.
C. As regards Reunion, any attempt to rally island to Free French cause would be unwise as long as Madagascar remains in Vichy hands, since we should have to undertake protection of Reunion against recapture from Madagascar. No attempt to rally Reunion will therefore be made unless and until similar action is taken against Madagascar.
(Hd. of M. Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1715A/27 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A.

/Plans .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

27.8.1941
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Plans in event of Far East War.

Admty. 1958/21. Additional East Indies commitments in event of Far East war appear to be as follows:
(1) Singapore convoys. I have at present 5 sloops, one yacht, and one Corvette suitable for A/S escort. Of these 7 vessels, 2 are R.I.N. and one R.A.N. If situation in Persian Gulf admits and if a partial relaxation of Jibuti blockade can be accepted I anticipate being able provide escort required in initial stages as suggested in C. in C. China 0337/24, providing none of R.I.N. or R.A.N. vessels is withdrawn from my control.
(2) Preparation and defence of port T. Final requirements cannot be known until R/C has been carried out, but initial requirement base personnel, erection of Port War Signal station etc. can be met from station resources.
(C. in C. E.I., 1314Z/27.)
I hope eventually to be able to provide A/S patrol also from station resources, but this will depend on Red Sea and Persian Gulf situation and escort requirements of para. (i) above. In view of depth of water and other difficulties, M/S organisation is not considered necessary.
(3) Trincomalee. Extent to which it will be necessary to augment present base staff and facilities will depend on uses to which it is intended to put port for repairs, storing, recreational and other purposes. Admty. decision is requested on this point so that necessary work can be put in hand without delay. I will do my best to meet initial requirements from local resources.
(4) Defence of Ceylon. A/S and M/S requirements Colombo, are covered by A.L. M.M/S 0186/41 of 28/4. The above letter states there are no requirements for Trincomalee but it is suggested this will now depend on the decision asked for in para.(v) Communications. Requirements are given in my 1336/26.
(vi) F.A.A. maintenance facilities. As stated in my 1310/23/7 the inadequacy of these facilities in my command gives cause for anxiety.
It is clear from reference in Admty. 1405/11 that T.L. still contemplate shipping being available for freighting aircraft to and from Singapore. I respectfully point out that strategic plan now envisages the possibility of Singapore being invested. Should such a situation arise we would be denied an aircraft repair base at a time when it is most urgently required.
(C. in C. E.I., 1320Z/27 to Admty., C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

27.8.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Fuelling Base.

Your 1409/23. After consultation with Dutch, recommend Padang. Request details emphasizing defences and mark of guns and mountings likely to be (? provided).
(C. in C. China, 0431Z/27 to Admty.)

28.8.1941
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operations "Dervish" "Benedict"

Force L. comprising SHROPSHIRE, ARGUS, SOMALI, MATEBELE and PUNJABI, is to proceed as necessary to comply with my 1219A/27. Intended time of leaving Scapa is to be reported.
(ii) Route to Seidisfiord through position
1. 062° 30' N. 005° 30' W.
2. 066° N. 012° W.
3. Fuel is available Seidisfiord in WAR SUDRA E.T.A. is to be reported to A.C.I.C.who is requested to inform WAR SUDRA.
4. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange A/S air escort for as far in the northward as practicable during passage to Seidisfiord.
Code word "Encore". Estimated S. of A. 17 knots.
(V.A.2 2010A/28.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Falklands Defence.

Your 86390 (M.O.4) 26/8. Will do everything possible but anticipate greatest difficulty obtain suitable volunteers, and present delicacy political situation entails complete secrecy avoid offending Argentine neutrality. Only communication is a small steamer sailing (?18/9). Suggest more satisfactory men and quicker transport could be obtained Capetown whence I understood CARNARVON CASTLE will sail shortly.
(M.A. Buenos Aires, 1208/28 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

29.8.1941
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Narvik S/M Patrol. — Your 1919C/28. If Soviet submarine intends entering Vestfiord she should be warned that British mines exist as follows :
(a) 1 mile either side of a line extending for 18 miles in a direction 310° from the shore in 67° 25' N., 14° 37' E.
(b) Within a circle of 1 mile radius about 67° 55' N., 14° 43' E.
(V.C.N.S. 1553A/29 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

S.N.23 A. — Intend to lay deep minefields S.N.23 A with PORT QUEBEC escorted by WELLS or ST MARYS sailing 2100/3 and laying from (i) 059° 06' N. 007° 03' 30" W. through (ii) 059° 02' 12" N. 007° 09' 30" W. and (iii) 058° 58' N. 007° 03' W. to (iv) 058° 51' 24" N. 007° 09' 30"W. A.M./4/9.
(R.A.M. 1607/29.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Diego Garcia. — Your 0915Z/19. Guns are to be provided from those removed from ANTENOR. Fire Control instruments are being despatched to Colombo from U.K.
(D. of L.D. 1639A/29 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

America and West Indies.

T.C.15
T.C.14 — It is anticipated 14000 Army personnel T.C.15 will require to be despatched to U.K. first half October following T.C.14, included are Fifth Canadian (Armoured) Division with Corps and Army Units and reinforcements. Request early report if it is anticipated troopships will be available.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2013Z/29 to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

30.8.1941
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian ships building.

1. The Russians have been reported as carrying out some effective destruction of their ships on the slips in the building yards in the Black Sea, and it is probable that they have made similar arrangements for the Baltic.
2. You should ensure that vessels under construction in the Baltic do not fall into German hands, and you may, if necessary, promise some help to replace them after the war. This last point should not, however, be used unless the Russians show any reluctance to effect the necessary destruction.
(1st S.L. 1511A/30 to Admiral Miles.)

Movements.

INDOMITABLE.

Sails from Lightning Knoll Buoy for Liverpool 1330/7, speed 9 knots. Ship will anchor at Bar at 2030 and enter harbour on p.m. tide/8th. Request A/A and A/S escort for passage and to screen ship whilst at anchor. Propose category one for fighter protection.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2211/30.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Raider Search.

DORSETSHIRE 0355/29. RODNEY was in approx. 028° N. 050° W. at 1200/29 proceeding to 018° N. 051° 30' W. to arrive 1200/30 CIRCASSIA sailed Freetown 1800/27 routed through.
(a) 010° 20' N. 016° 40' W.
(z) (?b) 010° 45' N. 030° 00' W.
(c) 025° 00' N. 042° 30' W.
E.T.A. at (c) 0001/3/9.
Cable ship LADY DUNCANNON escorted by MILFORD is operating between approx. 006° 30' N. 024° 00' W. and 60 miles north eastward U.S. Cruisers NASHVILLE, LONG ISLAND and (U.S. Destroyer MC COOK) should have left Bermuda 28th to patrol through 018° 00' N. 032° 30' W. to 022° N. 032° 30' W. thence Hampton Roads. Other American forces are operating to the eastward of Antilles and eastward of Bermuda. DUNEDIN left Freetown 1700/29 escorting oiler RAPIDOL to R/V with REPULSE in 035° N. (?030°) W. at 0900/6/9 when REPULSE fuels. Direct from fuelling REPULSE

/continues ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

30.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Raider Search contd.

continues escort of W.S.11 routed west of Cape Verde Is. while DUNEDIN relieves SHEFFIELD as escort to slow portion of this convoy in 036° 08' N. 030° 32' W. at 1600/6/9. SHEFFIELD then returns to U.K.
(C. in C. S.A. 1741N/29 to Force F.)

East Indies.

Convoy C.M.18.

(i) Consisting of MAURETANIA and NIEUW AMSTERDAM will leave Durban 8/9 for Suez escorted by AUSTRALIA.
(ii) Route.
(iii) AUSTRALIA proceeding to escort convoy to vicinity of Perim whence ships are to proceed independently to anchorage as arranged by S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area and AUSTRALIA to Aden.
(C. in C. E.I. 0700Z/30.)

America and West Indies.

U.S. South East Pacific Force.

The Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet, has been directed to send two light cruisers of 7,500 tons to Balboa to constitute a Southeast Pacific Force.
2. Their orders are to destroy surface raiders which attack or threaten U.S. Flag Shipping within the area bounded by a line drawn from the Mexican - Guatemalan border to a position 5° S. 100° W. thence due south on the meridian of 100° W. Approach of a surface raider within this area constitutes a threat to U.S. Flag Shipping.
Request you will operate DESPATCH in defence of shipping to the Northward of this area and arrange for her to include if practicable a visit to Esquimalt.
(1st S.L. 1902A/30 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Australia.

U.S.12 B
U.S.13
U.S.14

Your 1841A/25.
U.S.12 B. is delayed 3 days only by SIBAJAK embarking Sydney. Anticipate arrival Colombo 3/10 and Asia Minor 15/10.
Australian requirements Middle East U.S.13, early November, 8600; U.S.14, January, 8600.
Request Navy Office Wellington notify requirements.
QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH cannot be handled in New Zealand.
(A.C.N.B. 1209Z/30 to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary
Operations Volume.

31.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

War Plans.

My 0411/26. B D Appendix A.
(c) A.C.N.B. now considers probable that CANBERRA and AUSTRALIA will be required chiefly in S.W. Pacific area at any rate until scale of attacks in that area can be accurately estimated. "D" class are considered unsuitable for Singapore - Fremantle escort and are in any case required for Colombo Singapore Pool. Only ocean escorts between Singapore and Fremantle at present available for Sinagpore - Australia monthly convoys are one 6-inch Cruiser from Australia and Netherlands Cruiser JAVA. If A.C.N.B. adher to their present decision it will be necessary to base on Singapore suitable cruisers eastbound of these convoys.
(C. in C. China, 0441Z/31 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

1.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Operation "Dervish".

After fuelling and resting and when A/A protection of convoy is reasonably assured, escort may be used in agreement with Russian S.N.O. to operate off entrance to White Sea against U-Boats and ships or (? bases.)
2. Escort is to sail with "Dervish" about 17/9.
3. Admiralty pass to S.B.N.O. Murmansk and Admiral Miles.
(V.A.2., 1034A/1 to ELECTRA.)

Operations.

Operation "Aciddrop"- Preliminary Report.

R/Cs. of the French coast defences near Hardelot at 649407 and Merlimont Plage at 626236 were carried out on night 30/31 August. In Northern area enemy gave alarm by whistling. Presence of defence troops was indicated but no fire was opened. No searchlights. Party re-embarked after 30 minutes ashore. In Southern area stakes driven into sand delayed approach of A.L.C. but were eventually crossed causing superficial damage to craft only. No sign of enemy. No alarm. No searchlights. Time factor forced party to re-embark after 20 minutes ashore.
No wire obstacles or mines encountered in either area. Both parties returned safely.
(D.C.O., 1717A/1.)

Mining.

Operation S.N.23 A.

Intend to carry out operation S.N.23 A. as follows:
(A) Deep Minefield.
(D) PORT QUEBEC, NEWARK.
(F) From (1) 059° 06'42" N. 007° 02'24" W. through (2) 059° 02'12", 007° 09'30" and (3) 058° 58', 007° 03' to (4) 058° 54', 007° 09'30", sailing 2100/3.
Request C. in C. Rosyth will arrange air A/S escort from first light 4th until again Southward of Butt of Lewis.
(R.A.M., 1446A/1.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

1.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Shipping protection in Red Sea against F.W. A/C's.

Re protection of shipping in Red Sea consequent on your 1258/22/8 and on arrival of F.W. aircraft in Greece.

2. Consider that for the present at least these aircraft will not operate much south of Port Sudan and it is a reasonable assumption therefore that problem is to protect shipping on moonlit nights north of 28° (S.?) N. by torpedo aircraft and by day north of 19° (S.?) N. by Focke Wulf.

3. Important difficulty lies in provision of R.D.F. sets from an already exhausted store and of long range fighters of which there are seldom more than 5 serviceable in whole M.E. Command.

4. Political implication of introduction of convoys for U.S. Ships are considerable and I am consulting with Minister of State about this. On the other hand if U.S. Ships are not adequately protected there may be even worse repercussions.

5. Following action is however being taken which I hope may assist you.

(a) An A.A. ship will be sent down to an anchorage in Straits of Jubal to provide A.A. fire and R.D.F. fighter direction pending provision of a shore set but I can spare her for 3 weeks only.

(b) FLAMINGO and PARRAMATTA will be available as escorts between Port Sudan and Suez if it is decided U.S. Ships must be so provided. It will be realised this is at expense of escort work in Mediterranean and that I cannot spare them indefinitely.

(c) R.A.F. is providing Beaufighter to work from Ras Gharib and Hurgadha and any protection of anchorages in Straits of Jubal and water in the vicinity. I fear however that will be a very thin force.

6. You may care to consider also the following ideas which have arisen from our discussion here.

(a) Ships called forward from Aden to sail in daily groups evasively routed so as to reach anchorage in Gulf of Jubal just before dark. Ships from Suez to be sailed similarly southward in groups.

(b) Ocean escorts with personnel convoys to continue (? with them) to Gulf of Suez.

(c) Personnel ships southbound to sail independently if over 16 knots and no escort available. Personnel ships under 16 knots to sail with U.S. Ships if it is decided that latter must be escorted.

(C. in C. Med., 1333C/1 to C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

2.9.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation "E.H." (Minelaying off Stadlandet.)

Intend to sail F.O.C. 10th C.S. in KENYA with MANXMAN and LIGHTNING a.m./3. to carry out Operation "E.H". Object is to lay mines off Stadlandet.
(ii) F.O.C. 10th C.S. is requested to report his intended movements and C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange escort of long range fighters during daylight 3rd and from first light 4th.
Code word "Fallow".
(V.A.2., 1702A/2.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Diego Garcia, etc., garrisons.

Your 1334Z/28 (N.T. in W.R.) to G.H.Q.F.E. and A.O.C.F.E. only. I agree that small garrisons are required at Diego Garcia and Male (? Mahe) and will also be provided at Addu Atoll.
2. I am not initiating any action as you have matter so well in hand. Request you keep G.H.Q.F.E. and A.H.Q.F.E. informed of developments.
3. Ref. para 2 and 4A of your signal, A.O.C.F.E. intends to instal wireless station at all three bases when equipment and personnel become available in near future.
(Easfar, 0845/2 to C. in C. E.I.)
In view of developments at Addu Atoll (re Admty. 1330A/23/8) to C. in C. China No. 651.
Facilities for operation of one complete flying boat squadron should be provided there if this is found practicable. A.O.C.F.E. will report results of R/C as early as possible.
(Easfar, 0850/2 to Air Ministry.)

U.S. Shipping, Red Sea.

C. in C. Med. 1333/1. Your 1258/22 not received by me.
2. 21 U.S. ships passed through Aden in July and 16 in August of which 15 proceeded to Port Sudan and 22 direct to Suez. Policy now is for all U.S. ships to call at Port Sudan. Those bound for Suez which have to (? group missing) aircraft at Port Sudan are then sailed to anchorage at Freddie as soon as possible without further signal, vide M. of W.T. 1935/29.

/3. Assembly.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S. Shipping, Red Sea. Contd.

3. Assembly of convoy at Port Sudan would cause congestion there in outer anchorage; it might therefore be necessary to use Mohanimed Gul where they would require yet another A/A ship to provide protection.
4. As regards para. 6 (a) Consider this undesirable unless air or A/A ship protection can be provided as speed of slowest ship increases time on passage and therefore time open to attack.
5. Ref. para.6 (b), Agreed provided escort can be spared.
6. Ref. para.6 (c), Agreed.
7. Red Sea, whose Western Littoral is now entirely in our hands, lends itself to protection of shipping by aircraft and it appears to me this question must be faced up to and necessary aircraft provided.
(viii) At present the U.S. ships are not armed.
(ix) Henceforward merchant ships will be diversely routed from 19° N. to Shadwan.
(S.N.O.R.S., 1632Z/2 to C. in C. E.I.)

America and West Indies.

U.S. Pacific Force, DESPATCH, DIOMEDE, PRINCE HENRY.

U.S. Cruisers CONCORD and TRENTON due Balboa 13/9 from Pacific will constitute U.S. South East Pacific Force and will operate to eastward of line
(A) Mexican Guatemalan Border.
(B) 005° S. 100° W. thence south on Meridian 100° W. Approach of surface raider within this area constitute threat (? to) U.S. (? Flag) shipping and U.S. forces have orders to destroy raider.
(ii) It is intended to operate British forces to northward of above areas.
(iii) After fuelling at Talara on 5/9 DESPATCH is to resume patrol in the vicinity of Galapagos and arrive Balboa 13/9 to fuel and pick up mail. Leave New Bedford 14/9 and proceed to cover shipping to N.W. arriving Manzanillo 19/9. Complete with fuel and leave Manzanillo 20/9 to R/V with DIOMEDE about 26/9 in vicinity of Gulf of Panama. R/V will be communicated. DESPATCH will then transit canal and proceed Bermuda via Jamaica.

/(iv) B.A.D.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

2.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U.S. Pacific Force, DESPATCH, DIOMEDE, PRINCE HENRY. Contd.

(iv) B.A.D. Washington is requested to arrange for DESPATCH to fuel at Balboa on 13/9 and at Manzanillo on 19/9, and for DIOMEDE at Balboa about 25/9.
(v) Instructions for PRINCE HENRY will be reported shortly. DESPATCH break W/T silence to report date PRINCE HENRY will require fuel.
(vi) S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica is to keep B.A.D. Washington informed of movements of British and Allied Merchant vessels in area to be patrolled by U.S. Forces after 13/9.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1222Q/2 to Cdre. W.I.)

3.9.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

TRIDENT, TIGRIS. Torpedoes required.

My 1142C/3. TRIDENT arrived having expended all torpedoes. TIGRIS sailed for patrol 3/9 with 12 torpedoes. Admty. 2002A/21/8. Spare torpedoes not yet arrived Polyarno. In view of numerous targets request further spare torpedoes be shipped first opportunity direct Murmansk which will save much delay.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk, 1153C/3.)

Operation.

My 1225A/30 (N.T. in W.D.) attack called off complete absence of cloud cover but convoy sighted confirms surmise that departures from Tromso are on southbound stream. Request (i) Air observation of lights burning on coast (ii) Any information of timing of convoys south of Narvik (iii) Air search after appearance of Force M. One Dornier down so far.
(C.S.1., 1220/3 to V.A.2.)

Convoy "Dervish" Destroyers.

S.B.N.O. Murmansk's 1123C/1. I have seen C.N.S. and have suggested that destroyers be used more offensively in Archangel-Murmansk area instead of on escort duties. This will probably be done.
(Miles, 1553C/3.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

3.9.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Convoy "Dervish".

Soviet Naval Authorities have informed me that they intercepted a B.B.C. Broadcast at 0415 G.M.T./2 reporting arrival of a convoy in Russia with supplies and aircraft reinforcements. This presumably must refer to "Dervish" and would appear to unnecessarily gratuitous information to the enemy. As the security of "Benedict" is also thereby jeopardised I have arranged with C.N.S. for extreme vigilance at Archangel. (Miles, 2019C/3.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Air Strength.

Chiefs of Staff No. 167 to Cs. in C. M.E. and Med.
Your A.207, 29/8. Agree to deletion of G.R. Sqdn. and F.A.A. T/B Sqdn. from additional paragraph to instructions contained in C.O.S. Telegram No. 163. Remainder of paragraph now confirmed and Attaches should be instructed accordingly. Air Force reinforcement programme will be accelerated to enable you to meet extra commitment of holding four fighter squadrons ready for despatch to Turkey from 1st November. Question of increasing fighter programme beyond 22 Squadrons now under examination.
(1st S.L., 1741A/3 to C. in C. Med.)

America and West Indies.

RESOLUTION.

Expects to leave Philadelphia p.m./14 and Chesapeake Bay p.m./15 due Bermuda a.m./18. Ship ready to leave Bermuda on Friday 26/9.
(B.A.R.M., 1536R/3 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

4.9.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation Q.K.7.

My 1532A/3, para. (2). General instructions for operation as follows. M.Ls. and M.T.Bs. are to remain together until taking departure from Q Z S 117.
Para. (3). M.Ls. to proceed to position of lay last reported in 51° 28' N. 3° 3' E. and are to return to waiting position at Inner Gabbard until daylight.
Para. (4). M.T.Bs. are to steer for Kwinte Bank Buoy and are to patrol in direction of West Schelde to south of Q Z X 158 returning to Galloper at daylight.
Para. (5). Surface vessels may be attacked without challenge by M.T.Bs. on outward route when East of 2° 30' E. On return full challenge procedure must be used North and West of Kwinte Bank Buoy.
(C. in C. Nore, 1126A/4 to BEEHIVE.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Employment of S/Ms.

Admty. 1028A/1 and 1948A/1. Importance of interrupting Axis trade particularly oilers between Dardanelles Aegean and Italy is so great that I do not consider any submarine can be spared for Western Mediterranean. All reinforcements are badly needed here to maintain pressure. Operations on West Coast of Italy, whilst of value in such sinkings as are achieved and in causing dispersion of A/S effort, cannot be considered of key importance as are operations against Tripoli (Africa) Benghazi and Aegean traffic.
(C. in C. Med., 1218C/4 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

For your information, American Embassy have notified Admty. that C. in C. of U.S. Atlantic Fleet has been directed to interpret Western Hemisphere Defence Plan No.4 (WPL-51) as requiring forces under his command to destroy surface raiders which attack shipping along sea lanes between N. America and Iceland (C), or which approach these sea lanes sufficiently close to be deemed a threat to such shipping.
(Head of M., Approved V.C.N.S. 1934A/4 to C. in C. H.F., C. in C. A.W.I., etc.)

/Submarines....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

4.9.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Submarines for Great Britain.

British Admiralty Supply Representatives state Navy Dept. informs me two S class are available for immediate transfer. They prefer this to transfer of one S and one R for operational and transit reasons. Collection of spare gear is simplified. Request confirmation that this is what is required. Presume crews will be adjusted accordingly.
Navy Dept. also state that in the event of the U.S. entering War before transfer of S/M's to the British is completed, the transfer of remaining S/M's will be subject to reconsideration at that time.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1233R/4.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

5.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation "Dervish" (B.B.C. Broadcast.)

Your 2019/3 - enquiries have been made of the B.B.C. and it has been ascertained that no mention was made of any convoy in the broadcast referred to. The relevant portion of that broadcast reads as follows:-
"A British correspondent in Moscow reports this morning that strong reinforcements for the Russian Air Force have already reached Russia. The Germans will soon have a shock when they meet the new planes and they will have tangible proof of the promise given by Britain and America to give Russia immediate assistance."
The British correspondent referred to is Philip Jordan, News Chronicle special correspondent now in Moscow.
(1st S.L., 0026A/5 to Ad. Miles.)

TRIDENT. Torpedoes.

Your 1153C/3. Further 40 spare torpedoes being shipped Archangel. Direct shipment to Murmansk not practicable.
(F.O.S. 1223A/5 to B.S.N.O. Murmansk.)

British Air Activity.

Following for Collier.
Your signal T.O.O. 1720/4. Naval situation necessitates Hurricanes flying off carrier at about 0600 hours on 7/September without awaiting V.H.F. at Voyengo. Carrier will fly off from area already known to S.B.N.O. Polyarno which should enable Hurricanes to make easy landfall well East of Kola Bay and then fly along coast. Hurricanes will fly off in batches of about 6 with interval between first and second of approximately 3 hours and of about 45 minutes between subsequent batches. For this reason use of Russian bomber would tend to complicate arrangements and should be declined. Suggestion being made to carrier that Fulmars should guide Hurricanes as far as coast.
2. Request you inform carrier through S.B.N.O. of weather conditions at 0500 hours G.M.T./7 September and forecast for following 6 hours. You should take action to render aerodrome conspicuous by smudge fires or other means. Russian bomber should be held available for emergency use such as forced landing. Notwithstanding the above O.C. "Benedict" Force at Murmansk will retain authority to postpone fly-off if in his opinion conditions are unsuitable.
(D.O.D. H., 2140A/5 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

/Your.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

5.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Your 2116/4.
Transport and erection of V.H.F. at Voyengo unavoidably delayed. Air Ministry accept the fly-off without this aid subject to C.O. R.A.F. Ground party considering conditions suitable.
2. Murmansk has been ordered to make weather report to you at 0530/7 and weather forecast for following 6 hours.
3. If doubt exists it is suggested Hurricanes might be led by Fulmars from VICTORIOUS at least as far as coast.
4. C.O. R.A.F. Ground party has been informed that it is necessary that fly-off shall take place about 0600/7.
5. Request you will -
(a) Confirm you intend to fly-off in original position.
(b) Specify intended zone time of fly-off.
(V.C.N.S., 2156A/5 to C.S.1.)

Mining.

Operation E.H.

British mines laid at approximately 0245A/4th in following area.
(ii) (A) in line position 062° 18' N. 005° 06' E. to 062° 16' N. 005° 07' E. thence to 062° 17' N. 005° 01' E.
(B) in line position 062° 18' N. 004° 58' E. to 062° 18' N. 004° 57' E.
(C) in line position 062° 18' N. 004° 55' E. to 062° 18' N. 004° 53' E.
(iii) mines type mark (17) on mark (17) sinkers set to 8 feet below mean low water spring.
(iv) flooders set to 14 days.
(v) positions given are considered accurate to within 1 mile but cannot be guaranteed.
(vi) enemy mines cut by MANXMAN paravane in approx. 062° 32' N. 004° E.
(C.S. 10., 1746A/5.)

Operation S.N.61.

Intend to carry out as follows.
(a) Surface minefield.
(d) AGAMEMNON, CASTLETON.
(f) From 059° 07'18" N. 005° 58'30" W. to 059° 20' N. 006° 05' W. Sailing 2330/6. Laying 0810/7. Details.
Request C. in C. Rosyth will arrange air A/S escort from first light 7th and 8th until arrival in North Channel.
(R.A.M., 1457A/5.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
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5.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Crews of French Ships at Alexandria.

Trouble between officers and men and amongst personnel.
(R.A. Alexandria, 1013C/5.)

America and West Indies.

Raider patrols.

Your 1902A/30/8. Most likely area of operation for enemy raider against British and Allied Shipping is to westward of Galapagos Island, and it is therefore intended to establish a patrol by D Class Cruiser in this area to westward of U.S. Zone mentioned. In view of limited endurance of D Class Cruiser an attendant oiler will be essential and I therefore now propose that ORANGELEAF should be retained on A. & W.I.Station in addition to BISHOPDALE in order to fulfil these requirements. My 2212Q/2/8 refers.
2. Ref. para. 3 of Admty. 1902A/30, I intend that DIOMEDE should visit Esquimalt before proceeding on this patrol.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1112Q/5 to Admty.)

U.S. Convoy Escorts.

U.S. Forces will start escort of high speed convoys beginning with H.X. departing Halifax 16/9 and turning same over at meeting point and picking up corresponding Westbound convoy. Similar procedure will be taken with regard to sailing of convoy leaving Sydney on 17/9 under Canadian escort. Passed to Spenavo London action and Cinclant Info.
(Spenavo, 1752/5 to Admty. for D.S.O.)

Escorts of H.X. and S.C. Convoys.

The following remarks, which are the result of conversation with Navy Dept., are in amplification of Message 151 752/c R 0403 sent through Sepnavo 5/9.
ii. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet doubts whether he has sufficient Forces available, assisted by Canadian Force to escort both H.X. and S.C. Convoy. For the present U.S. Force will escort H.X. Convoys only; S.C. Convoys will be responsibility of Canadian Force who will consequently require assistance of (? some) U.K. Escort Group.
iii. Unofficially I understand that after experience of working it is hoped C. in C. Atlantic will take over some portion of S.C. Convoys.

/iv. It is.....

MOST SECRET

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Escorts of H.X. and S.C. Convoys. Contd.

iv. It is intended that U.S. escort of H.X. Convoys will not normally proceed to Iceland (C) for refuelling but will change over to corresponding O.N. Convoy and Escort it to dispersal point off Newfoundland. If it is intended that O.N. escort will similarly change over to H.X. Convoy it is for consideration whether any procedure for changing over of escorts, should be suggested to Navy Dept. and C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. It would be simpler for U.S. escort of H.X. Convoy to be relieved by British Escort coming direct from Iceland (C).
v. It is understood that one or two units U.S. Escort of H.X. Convoys will be detailed to escort U.S. or Icelandic Flag Ship in Convoys to Iceland (C).
vi. Iceland Flag Ships have refused to accept Canadian or U.K. escorts. The two faster Icelandic ships therefore will be included in H.X. Convoy. Some special arrangements will be made for the four slow Icelandic Flag Ships.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1825R/5 to Admty.)

6.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Convoy "Dervish". Return Route.

Your 1009C/5.
2. Route to Scapa through following positions.
3. If however convoy is ordered to Hvalfiord, route after position T through following position W.
4. If ordered to Seidisfiord from position U thence to Seidisfiord.
5. Standard route positions A, B, C, and D as follows.
6. Secret positions for reference only:-
LUPIN, ROSE, ROBIN, HORSE.
7. Names of ocean escort will be signalled later.
(D.O.D. H., 1849A/6 to Ad. Miles.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

6.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Gibraltar, supply ship trial.

Chiefs of Staff considered E.P.S. (41) 205 Supplies to Gibraltar. First Sea Lord suggested that a trial should be made of unloading a small ship on the East side of the Rock under conditions that might exist during a siege. Chiefs of Staff (a) took note that (i) regular supply service out of the question during siege but running of occasional fast ships might be possible.
(ii) there would be little opportunity of evacuating wounded.
(b) invited (i) Ministries concerned to despatch a small cargo vessel, and two M.L.Cs. to Gibraltar so that action as suggested, may be carried out.
(ii) C. in C. Gibraltar to submit as a matter of urgency further recommendations or requirements after re-examination as to whether greater stocks of food and other essential supplies could be accepted.
(c) agreed that if W.O. investigation showed that highly concentrated or dehydrated foods would be suitable for a siege, high priority should be given to their production.
Action will be taken by you accordingly.
(W.O., 1815/6 to Governor, Gibraltar.)

China.

Fuelling Base, Padang.

Your 0431Z/27.
1. Concur in choice of Padang.
2. Underwater defences. Provided berths inside Emma Haven only are used patrols should suffice, and no indicator net will be necessary in view of the shallowness of the approaches. It would be desirable to instal A/B boom with small mesh A/S net beneath across the harbour entrance, for defence against small craft, but this cannot be provided yet. To give any real protection to Koninginne or Bungus Bays would be very heavy commitment which there is no prospect of undertaking at present.
3. Coast Defences. Two 6" Mark VII guns should be supplied from guns to be removed from ANTENOR at Colombo.
4. Request you will arrange with C. in C. E.I., regarding shipment. Fire Control Instruments will be sent from U.K.
(V.C.N.S., 1224A/6 to C. in C. China.)

/TEVIOT.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

7.9.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

TEVIOT BANK. Your 0855/2. TEVIOT BANK will enable you to complete the minefields referred to in your 0801/17/1 and this is the chief reason for sending her. She will also be at your disposal for similar protective operations including those planned in conjunction with the Dutch authorities.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1350A/7 to C. in C. China.)

8.9.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

509. Intend to visit Hvalfjord about 22nd September to meet F.O. Commanding U.S. Naval Force.
Your 1904/13th May, your 1624/28th August and your 1709/6th September request clarification of the following points. (i) Presume American strategic control of western Atlantic area does not come into force until U.S. enter the war? (ii) Shall I be kept informed of movements of American escorts, convoys and covering forces which will operate from 16/9. (iii) After the Americans have assumed control of the Western Atlantic area what will be the procedure for co-ordinating activities of the forces in the eastern and western Atlantic on occasions similar to the recent chase of the BISMARCK? Will the Senior Officer at sea be able to take all the forces under his orders? (iv) To what extent will the American Naval force now in Iceland co-operate with the Home Fleet in the case of German break out through the Denmark Straits? In the case of emergency can I ask the American Admiral in Iceland to patrol the Denmark Straits or to shadow enemy raiders (a) east of 030° W. (b) west of 030° W. (v) Reference to para. E of the first two signals quoted. Presume limitation of U.S. responsibility refers only to islands necessary as alternatives to Gibraltar and not to Gibraltar and not to Iceland, Faroes etc. (vi) Intend instructing A.C.I.C. to keep me informed of U.S.ships in Icelandic waters.
(C. in C. H.F., 1338A/8 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

8.9.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Trincomalee.

Your 1320Z/27/8.
2. Para. (iii). It is anticipated that up to 2 capital ships: 1 carrier, 2 cruisers and 1 destroyer flotilla will be based on Trincomalee. It is not at present intended to increase the repair facilities. Storage and Recreational facilities will be required for the above force.
3. Para. (iv). Investigation suggests following A/S and M/S requirements at Trincomalee.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1221A/8 to C. in C. E.I.)

9.9.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Cruiser requirements.

1. The requirements for Cruisers in the immediate future are as follows:-
(a) 1 Cruiser to escort W.S.12 leaving Clyde on 30/9.
(b) 1 - 8" Cruiser to convey a mission to N. Russia, date of departure uncertain.
(c) 1 - 6" Cruiser to take NIGERIA's place in "Halberd" sailing 16/9.
(d) 1 - 8" Cruiser to escort Russian Convoy leaving Iceland 21/9.
2. In addition to above a Cruiser will be required to convey a distinguished passenger to U.S.A., but this commitment must await improvement in Cruiser situation.
3. EDINBURGH should be back in U.K. about 2/10.
(V.C.N.S., 1342A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)
A.M. 1342A/9 para. (b).
Probable date of departure from U.K. is 17/9.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1917A/9.)

MOST SECRET

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Operations Volume.

10.9.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

"Pardoe" Force.

Your 2010C/9. Presumably reason "Pardoe" Force did not come into action was owing to shortage of essential equipment still in transit from Archangel. Please report situation immediately and ask No.30 Mission for any assistance required. Admiral Miles please pass to Air Marshal Collier. (Admty., 1401A/10 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

"Benedict" & "Pardoe" Forces.

Your 1401A/10* and my 2010C/9+. Situation not immediate#. Enemy advance temporarily halted heavier attack expected which Soviet forces may find difficult to hold without reinforcements which are not available.
"Benedict" force still non-operative due to non-arrival of essential equipment.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk, 2214C/10.)
* Reason "Pardoe" Force did not come into action. Report situation.
+ Attack developing Murmansk front "Pardoe" not in operation.
As received.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd".

General Plan. To practice evasion to fullest extent in order to give enemy as short a time as possible in which to organize opposition on D.3 and D.4.
(ii) Subject to weather conditions normal force H will keep along Africa Coast to Eastward of convoy (corrupt group) latter proceeds on D.2 through area South of Balearic Is. which is usually free of (shipping ?) and aircraft.
(iii) Disclosure of concentration of heavy ships on D.3 should act as substantial deterrent to enemy (? surface) forces.
A movement by Force H to (? North East) after reaching entrance to Skerki Channel at about 1900B on D.3 should deter to some extent ememy (? surface) forces from attempting night attacks.
(iv) As further deterrent to surface forces (? rearrangement of) submarine patrols on general lines of those proposed in V.A. Malta's (? letter) 3510 will be of value.

(v) Anticipate.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
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10.9.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Halberd" Contd.

(v) Anticipate chief danger lies in (a) Torpedo (? attack) (? during) (? moon) light D.3.
(b) Mines and E-Boats in the Narrows.
(c) Surface action by (? enemy forces) A.M. D.4 operating from West or East of Sicily, and
(d) Air attack on D.4.
Escort and convoy must compete with (a) and (b). For (c) and (d) Beaufighters and Hurricanes together with air striking force from Malta must be relied on.
(S.O. Force H., 2120A/10.)

East Indies.

REVENGE.

Admiralty message 1159/9. Intend REVENGE to escort SELANDIA leaving Mombasa for Durban about 22/9. Can she be taken in hand about 28/9.
(C. in C. E.I., 1310Z/10 to F.O.i/c Simonstown.)

11.9.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S. 12A.

My 1340/10.
1. As machinery repairs will not now permit use of BRITISH JUDGE to refuel U.S. 12A ships followin is being arranged.
2. BRITISH GENIUS after refuelling EMERALD at Seychelles to be sailed for Diego Garcia.
3. HAWKINS on relief EMERALD to refuel at Mombasa sailing for Seychelles on completion
4. Oiler PEARLEAF as soon as available to be sailed for Diego Garcia (BRITISH GENIUS returning Seychelles.
(C. in C. E.I., 1256Z/11.)

Port T.

In continuation of Admty. 2219A/23/8, ATREUS and ALSEY are to protect the Northern two entrances to Port T as soon as Southern Controlled Mine-fields have been completed.
Proposed scheme follows.
(D.T.M., 2118A/11 to C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

12.9.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N. 23B.

Intend to lay deep minefields S.N. 23B. with PORT QUEBEC escorted by CASTLETON sailing 2000/15 and laying from (i) 058° 40'42" N. 007° 02'48" W. through (ii) 058° 44'54" N. 007° 09'30" W. and (iii) 058° 49'06" N. 007° 02'48" W. to (iv) 058° 53'18" N. 007° 09'30" a.m./16.
(R.A.M., 1704/12.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Cruisers.

Your 0001A/8. I view with some concern loss of one of two 'D' Class cruisers from S.A. Station. These are normally the only two cruisers that can be depended on for any operational movements other than flagship of R.A.S.A.D. Apart from then for a long period there have been no cruisers available with any certainty. Others become available on occasions but are usually taken away at short notice or merely pass on escort duty. Although shortage of cruisers is realized, I must point out that in these circumstances it is seldom possible to plan any movements ahead or organize any system (? depending on) large area involved.
(C. in C. S.A., 2355N/12 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Salvage Vessels.

Your 1710C/6 VALKYRIEN is expected to leave Capetown for Port Said mid September towing barge to Kilindini en route. No existing vessels are obtainable from U.S.A. but first of new vessels building in U.K. is due to complete in January and will be allotted to Mediterranean. Urgency of your requirements is realised.
(Admty., 1204A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

12.9.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GLENROY.

Your 1325/11 and your 1330/6.
(i) Before installation of defence at Port T can be commenced it will be necessary for additional stores and equipment given in my 1812/12 to be collected and embarked as well as two guns at Bombay and four at Colombo. Under these circumstances it will clearly be impossible for GLENROY to return to Suez within three weeks of her departure. O.C. 1st R.M. Group M.N. B.D.O. agrees.
(ii) I will expedite work as much as possible and return her to Suez as soon as I can.
(C. in C. E.I., 1814Z/12 to C. in C. Med.)

America and West Indies.

Escorts for S.C. Convoys.

Personal from First Sea Lord. Your 1404Z/11.
Our experience with S.C. 42 shews that stronger escorts will be necessary with the S.C. convoys.
2. As only six ships are allocated to each group by C.C.N.F. in his 1807Z/9 we cannot presumably count on more than four to five being with each convoy. I do not think this is sufficient escort.
3. I consider that S.C. 45 should be escorted by not less than nine ships, in view of the fact that the majority of these must be corvettes.
4. If you have not sufficient escorts available to provide this number for S.C. 45 request you will arrange with C.C.N.F. to retain sufficient R.N. escorts at present at St. Johns to bring the escort for S.C. 45 to above strength.
5. The question of escorts for future convoys after S.C. 45 will require further consideration and in the meantime no R.N. escorts should be transferred to U.K.
(Admty., 1638A/12 to C.N.S. Ottawa.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

13.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

North Atlantic Trade Convoy Escorts.

Commencing with H.X. 150 leaving Halifax on 16/9 the U.S.A. will assume responsibility for Trans-Atlantic trade convoys on the North Atlantic route when to the Westward of a line from North Pole down meridian of 10° West to latitude 65° North, thence to position 53° N. 26° W. and thence down meridian of 26° W.
2. U.S.A. or Canadian forces will provide the A/S ocean escort groups for trade convoys to and from Western Atlantic Ports and Meeting Points South of Iceland (C) between longitudes 26° and 22° W. and northward of lat. 58° N. R.N. escort groups will provide the escort to the Eastward of the Meeting Points.
3. U.S.A. escort groups will escort the H.X. convoys; and Canadian groups, augmented as necessary by R.N. escort vessels, will escort the S.C. convoys. Mixed U.S. and British escort groups will be avoided.
4. This information is only to be given to those officers and men who necessarily require it in the course of their duties and they are to be warned that it is not to be divulged.
(V.C.N.S., 1145A/13, A.C.N.S. (T) 2249A/22.)
A.M. 1145A/13. Following are communication arrangements.
1. Admiralty and Navy Department Washington are in close communication and will exchange all necessary information. Navy Department will also exchange information direct with N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C. A. & W.I., C.O.A.C. Halifax, and C.C.N.F. Canadian escorts operating under the direction of U.S. Chief of Naval Operations will communicate as necessary with U.S. authorities Inter-communication between British and U.S. ships when necessary near their meeting point is governed by paras. three and four.
Apart from the above, British ships and authorities are not to address messages to U.S. ships and authorities.
2. Canadian escorts (other than those escorting troop convoys) conform to U.S. W/T Organisation, and use U.S. call signs and procedure when working direct with U.S. ships and W/T stations. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa will be responsible for passing administrative messages to these ships.
3. Inter-communication wave is 4400 kc/s. A guard is to be kept on this wave by both escort and relief escort from 24 hours before expected time of meeting until visual contact is made. The convoy R/T wave of 2410 kc/s may also be used for inter-communication.
Attention is invited to S.P. 02376.

/4. W/T.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

13.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

North Atlantic Trade Convoy Escorts. Contd.

4. W/T silence is only to be broken on inter-communication wave to report enemy or imminent danger, or for essential signals to ensure contact when seriously out of programme position or own position is doubtful.
5. 375 kc/s may be used by mutual arrangement if necessary for escort and relief escort to home on each other by D/F.
6. British - U.S. Codes and Cyphers are to be used for any messages which are likely to be passed on to Navy Department, they are also to be used for any urgent messages for Canadian escorts which have to be passed over U.S. communications system.
7. Enemy reports. Admiralty are responsible for passing to Navy Department any enemy report of interest made in Home or North Atlantic Stations, C. in C. A. & W.I. will be similarly responsible on his station.
When a guard on 4400 kc/s is being maintained in an escort any enemy report from that escort is to be repeated on that wave. In such cases S.P. 2377 should be used for self evident reports.
8. U.S. aircraft on convoy duty keep watch on 6666 kc/s by day and 3925 kc/s by night, shifting at 0600 and 1800 zone time.
Only means of inter-communication between ships and aircraft of different nations at present is S.P. 2377 or plain language. British aircraft should be supplied with call signs of any U.S. ships they are likely to approach and should use a call sign from S.P. 02378 for "Any British aircraft" if they have to communicate with a U.S. ship.
9. Attention is invited to the necessity of paraphrasing if a message has to be sent in British - U.S. cypher as well as some other cypher.
10. This information is only to be given to those officers and men who necessarily require it in the course of their duties and they are to be warned that it is not to be divulged.
(V.C.N.S., 1150A/13.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

13.9.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Convoys P.Q. and Q.P.

Convoys between U.K. and North Russia will in future be given serial numbers.
2. The next convoy from U.K. to North Russia, expected to leave Iceland about 25/9, will be known as P.Q. One. The next convoy from North Russia to U.K., which includes return of "Dervish" ships, will be known as Q.P. One.
3. This serial numbering will apply whether convoys proceed via Iceland or direct.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1230A/13.)

Operations.

Operation J.R.

Lack of enemy coastal traffic by day, and disadvantage of withholding our day Air Attacks on possible targets so as to leave Target for J.R. (which does not materialise as enemy slips into Boulogne or other port for day), leads me to the conclusion that we should now make this a night operation. But as enemy strength will not be fully established and I do not wish to operate motor gunboats in conjunction with destroyers at night, I consider we should if possible operate 3 destroyers. This can be arranged by delaying turn over of ATHERSTONE to Plymouth Command for time being. I am acting accordingly and intend standing by to put, this night operation into force covering 15/9.
Fighter co-operation only will then be required, as our surface force would be returning in dawn light.
Day operations for J.R. as planned at present to remain in force up to and including Monday should suitable Target be offered.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1553A/13.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Operation "Ration".

Admty. 2356/9. Your 1340/10 and 1256/11.
Carry out Operation "Ration" on this convoy within the E.I. Station, whether it is escorted or not, in accordance with A.T. 1407/10/1.
2. Cargo is not known, but this is now a probable route by which rubber can reach Germany.
3. French instructions to their escorts elsewhere are that force is to be met by force, but that they must not appear to initiate offensive action. Presumably this escort will have been similarly instructed.
(1st S.L., 0057A/13 to C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

13.9.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

S.C.Convoy Escorts.

Personal for First Sea Lord. I entirely agree with your 1638/12 and C.C.N.F. has been given necessary instructions for S.C. 45. Consider escort for S.C. Convoys should consist of at least 2 destroyers and 6 corvettes. Allowing a 25 per cent margin for refits and emergency repairs this will entail 15 destroyers and 45 corvettes. At present 8 Canadian Destroyers and 25 Canadian Corvettes are allotted to Newfoundland Escort Force. Remaining 5 Canadian destroyers are short (corrupt groups) which have been allotted to Halifax Force. Number of corvettes can be increased to 45 by end of year at expense of those allocated for service in British Waters. This leaves 7 R.N. Destroyers required in addition to those required for T.C. and C.T. Convoys.
(C.N.S. Canada, 1403Z/13 to Admty., etc.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.
Operations Volume.

14.9.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Minesweeping in White Sea.

Your 0600A/10, see my 1103C/10. (b) after personal investigation at Archangel consider that Soviet minesweeping arrangements for White Sea will remain inadequate until their ships are fitted with L L and S.A propose therefore that unless Fleet sweepers are accompanying next convoy HARRIER, HALCYON and SALAMANDER should remain in Northern waters for the present. (Admiral Miles, 1548C/14 to Admty.)

Operations.

Operation J.R.

Portsmouth's 1553A/13/9. Operation J.R.
The intention to abandon the existing plan of withholding attack on possible targets proceeding westwards through the Straits is welcomed, as also is the intention to attack shipping with destroyers at night.
I assume however that the latter attack will not be confined to area between positions B and C given in appendix one, as at present most west-bound vessels put into Boulogne, and continue the passage at dark. It is improbable, therefore, that information of the departure of these vessels could be given in time for destroyers to attack in this vicinity.
Furthermore, I always make every endeavour to attack these ships with coastal craft. I suggest therefore, that destroyers should not attack to the eastward of 1° E. leaving the area to the eastwards clear for coastal craft.
The necessity to attack shipping by day in the channel still exists, and it is thought that provision should still be made for this to be done, even without air support, when conditions favour it.
Finally under present conditions I could usefully operate another M.T.B. Flotilla from Newhaven to attack westbound shipping.
(V.A. Dover, 1122A/14 to Admty.)
V.A. Dover's 1122A/14.
Request officer may be sent from N.I.D. to explai: special nature of J.R. to V.A. Dover. I regret no change in area of destroyer operations for J.R. can be accepted. An amendment to J.R. has already been issued in which the co-operation of forces acting under the orders of V.A. Dover has been requested. Such forces not to operate to south-westward of a line 315° from Berck.
With exception of operation J.R. which requires special orders I fully concur with N.O.i/c Dover' proposals.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2203A/14 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

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14.9.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N. 23 B. — Intend to carry out operation S.N. 23 B. as follows: (a) deep minefield (D 1) PORT QUEBEC NEWARK (f) from 058° 40'42" N. 007° 02'48" W. through 058° 44'54" 007° 09'30" and 058° 49'06" 007° 02'48" - 058° 53'18" 007° 09'30" (g) 2000/15 (j) through 058° 20' N. 005° 46' W. (k) 13 knots. (l) 0430/16 (n) through 180° Sulisker 10 miles and thence direct (o and p) Port Z.A 1600/16 (q) Fuelling (w) 16.5 miles 11¾ knots. Remarks. Request A/S air escort from first light 16/9 until again Southward Butt of Lewis.
(R.A. (M), 1127A/14.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Atlantic Convoy Escorts. — Following is summary of Escort Situation in Western Approaches.
(i) Decision that H.X. and S.C. Convoys are to be met West of 26° W. means 8 Groups instead of 5 as at present will be required for O.N., H.X., and S.C. Convoys.
(ii) The only ships at present available to form these 3 extra Groups are 5th, 6th and 7th Escort Groups, which average 4 Destroyers and no Corvettes or Trawlers when at full strength.
(iii) These 3 Groups have hitherto been acting as local escorts for O.G., H.G., O.S., and S.L. Convoys. There will thus in future be no local escorts for these Convoys but through escorts will remain with Convoys throughout while fuel permits.
(iv) I had assumed when Plan IV came in force the R.N. Destroyers and Corvettes of the Newfoundland Force would be released for Home Service and had intended that Destroyers should be allocated for special escorts and Gibraltar Convoys and that Corvettes should reinforce 5th, 6th and 7th Escort Groups.
(v) Admiralty's 1638A/12 and probable need for providing Escorts from Canada for T.C. and C.T. Convoys suggest however that it will not be possible to withdraw any R.N. Ships from Newfoundland Force for present and accordingly weaker U.K. Escorts on O.N., H.X., and S.C. Convoys and inability to strengthen Escorts of Gibraltar Convoys must be accepted.

(vi) The.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Atlantic Convoy Escorts. Contd.

(vi) The position is further aggravated by need for sending 8 Minesweeping Corvettes to South Atlantic. It is appreciated that these will be replaced from S.A. but for some 2 or 3 months the Western Approaches will be short of allocated Corvette strength owing to this commitment.
(vii) The necessity for reinforcing Med. and for giving extended escorts to W.S. Convoys has left special escort groups very short of Destroyers with result that Mercantile Convoy Escorts have to be further reduced to bring special escorts up to strength.
(C. in C. W.A., 0051A/14 to Admty.)

Return Convoy "Dervish".

Your 1848/6 (? 1849A/6 intended) para. 8
(a) 1300 G.M.T./17 Dvina L.V.
(b) 8½ knots.
(c) former "Dervish" ships and following Soviet ships BUDENNY, MOSSOVET, KRASNOE ZANAMIA RODINA SUKHONA ALMA-ATA, SEV-OLES, STARI-BOLSHEVIK.
(d) 1300 G.M.T./25.
(Admiral Miles, 1551C/14 to Admty.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Halberd".

Proposed movement west of Gibraltar. (a) D.1 is 25/9.
(b) RODNEY to join W.S. 11 X. on D minus 4. R/V as arranged by Admiralty. Seven Force H destroyers will join (? same) R/V.
(c) KENYA and EURYALUS to be detached as requisite about D minus 4 proceeding at high speed passing through position 20 miles west of Spartel at dark D minus 3, fuelling in Gibraltar Bay and passing through same position westbound at daylight D minus 2, rejoining W.S. 11 X. after daylight D minus 1.
(d) PRINCE OF WALES and 3 destroyers from U.K. to be detached p.m. D minus 4 to proceed as fuel permits to reach position in para. (c) at dark D minus 2, thence at high speed, fuelling in Gibraltar Bay being clear to westward of Spartel by daylight, rejoining W.S. 11 X about noon D minus 1.

/(e) SHEFFIELD.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Halberd". Contd.

(e) SHEFFIELD to R/V with W.S. 11 X. after daylight D minus 3. RODNEY, ISAAC SWEERS, and 2 destroyers from U.K. to be detached so as to arrive at Gibraltar 0700A, D minus 1.
(f) After simulating shifting of flag NELSON and 3 destroyers will sail to westward p.m. D minus 1.
(g) RODNEY and remainder of Force H sail to eastwards after dark D minus 1.
(h) W.S. 11 X. to pass Europa Point at 0130A/D.1, Gibraltar portion being detached about 0100A/D.1.
(i) Further fuelling reliefs for destroyers will be arranged using 2 Force H destroyers and Hunts.
(j) The need for strictest economy in fuel must be impressed on all destroyers, and it is requested those of high consumption be topped up at Londonderry.
(k) Your 0023/11. Is EDINBURGH taking part? Which other Flag Officer will be present.
(S.O. Force H., 1055A/14 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

FORTH.

Following programme for FORTH based on information received from Capt. S.2. is proposed.
(1) Leave St. Johns N.F. p.m./18 arrive Portsmouth N.H. during darkness 20/21.
(2) Visit U.S. ports as arranged by B.A.D. Washington.
(3) Leave New London p.m./26 to arrive Halifax 28/9.
(4)Ready to sail with T.C. Convoy any time after a.m./1/10. Maximum speed 16 knots.
(C.C.N.F., 1348Z/14 to Admty., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

H.G. 72.

A Focke Wulf has been heard laying a submarine on to H.G. 72.
(C. in C. W.A., 1205/14 to Escort of H.G. 72.)

MOST SECRET

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Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

ARGUS

ARGUS is required to ferry Naval Aircraft to Gibraltar sailing with W.S. 12 on 30/9.
2. Request you will sail ARGUS to the Clyde as soon as possible.
4. ARGUS is available for deck landing training from date of arrival in Clyde until loading commences. V.A.N.A.S. and F.O.I.C. Greenock are requested to make the necessary arrangements.
5. Captain of ARGUS is to report at Admiralty after arrival in the Clyde.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1847A/15.)

Mining

Operation N.L. 11.

Intend to carry out operation N.L. 11 tonight 15/9 from amended position 51° 02' 48" 02° 00' 00" E. (V.A. Dover, 1234A/15 to Admty.)

Operation Q.L. (2)

To take place 16/9 or first night after that weather is suitable. BEEHIVE is to report when ready, executive signal will be made by C. in C. Nore.
(2) Forces taking part. Three motor launches of 51st Flotilla, 1 unit of M.G's and one unit of M.T.B's, all from BEEHIVE.
(3) Position of lay. Centre in position 2.5 miles, 034° from buoy in 052° 00' 12" N., 004° 00' E. in direction 270° - 090°.
(5) Execution. Motor launches are to sail to take (?departure) from Aldeburgh buoy at 1945, thence through position R.N.W.E. 13 45 to position of "lay", returning by same route, Estimated S. of A. 18 knots but speed on return is to be adjusted so as not to arrive Aldeburgh buoy before daylight.
(6) M.G.B's R/V M.L's at Aldeburgh at 1945, form escort until dark then through position R.N.W.E. 13 45 to patrol 5 miles either side of R.N.H.A. 15 56, direction 290° - 115°, returning through R.N.W.E. 13 45 at 0600. M.T.B's proceed independently to H.J.H.A. 50 30 and patrol 10 miles in direction 060°, returning to arrive vicinity of Inner Gabbard at daylight.
(7) Full challenge procedure must be used by all units when returning.
(8) Amended E.T.A's must not be made until West of Aldeburgh buoy.
(9) Fighter protection will be asked for.
(C. in C. Nore, 1508A/15 to BEEHIVE)

/Return.....

MOST SECRET

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Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys

Return Convoy "Dervish"

Your 1551C/14.
Convoy will not be able to sail on 17/9.
2.Further details follow.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1340A/15 to Admiral Miles.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Port T.

Your 1814/12. I understood from Admty. 1330/23/8 para. (h) and your 1420/31/8 to C. in C. Med. only that guns were ready for shipment to Port T. and I assumed you would be arranging necessary shipping from India. It appears that there will now be considerable delay. GLENROY must leave Suez on 20/9 direct for anchorage T. She is required to discharge on arrival without regard to tactical unload and then return immediately to Suez to arrive not later than 18/10. In any case, GLENROY will be fully loaded on leaving Suez. It will be necessary for CLAN FORBES to accompany GLENROY to anchorage T but she might subsequently call at an Indian port to embark additional stores and equipment for anchorage W if D. of S.T. concurs.
(C. in C. Med., 1259C/15 to C. in C. E.I.)

Operation "Halberd".

Your 1335/10 and C. in C. Med. 1219/13.
Concur except that I should prefer 2 South and one North of Messina.
(ii) TRUSTY and SOKOL will be ready to leave Gibraltar on 17th and 19th respectively, suggest these be sailed to take up (? position) North of Sicily. Submarines thus released to be available to operate on approach route from Taranto should enemy heavy force(s) leave there on D.3.
(iii) Excess spare gear and aircraft torpedoes from these submarines to be transferred to a ship of "Halberd".
(iv) Neth. Sub. O.21 will be available to occupy position either off Cagliari or Naples depending on results of R/C, subsequently carrying out short patrol on East coast Sardinia.
(S.O. Force H., 1659A/15 to V.A. Malta.)

MOST SECRET

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15.9.1941.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Caspian — Your 0720/5. No British operations in the Caspian are at present contemplated or can be foreseen in near future. In event of such taking place, forces engaged would be placed under your orders.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1720A/15 to C. in C. E.I.)

16.9.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Co-operation with Russia

Archangel — Your 1548C/14. Request information of conditions at Archangel for maintenance of force of 3 destroyers and up to 6 fleet mine-sweepers for periods of about a month, with special reference (a) Welfare of officers and ratings. (b) Fuelling. (c) Minor repairs. (d) Stores and spares.
2. Is a resident British officer and small staff necessary.
3. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles and S.B.N.O. Murmansk.
(C. in C. H.F. 0036A/16 to Admiral Miles.)
C. in C. Home Fleet, 0036A/16. Conditions suitable for maintenance of such a force until early December when ice will prohibit use of port for light craft.
Para (1) (a) Canteen being arranged, otherwise as exciting as Scapa.
(b) Adequate supplies.
(c) Minor repair facilities and docking are available.
(d) Provisions available but ships should be stored to capacity before sailing ? suitable arrangements have been made. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. ELECTRA, HARRIER.
(Admiral Miles, 1736A/16 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
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16.9.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

S/M activities in Murmansk Area.

Your 1851A/14.
(A) Weather most severe during month of December January but minumum periscope visibility estimated at 3 hours per diem.
In clear weather northern lights may improve night conditions for attack. Russians do not intend winter conditions to interrupt Submarine operations. Murmansk and Polyarno only ice free bases after middle of November and if occupied by enemy no other bases available before May.
(B) Enemy reinforcements stores and ammunition must continue to arrive north of Norway for forces of this region during winter months and sea traffic likely to increase as rail and road conditions deteriorate. Nickel and ore traffic southward from Petsamo by sea will also continue.
(C) Soviet northern fleet will have been reinforced by further 9 submarine making total 25 which will include six K Class suitable for long distance operations.
While conditions northern waters for submarines not specially fitted for cold weather will be arduous and operations difficult after November I feel withdrawal of British submarines would cause discouragement especially if following close on return of 151 wing R.A.F. to U.K., and loss of esteem.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1817C/16 to Admty.)

Mining

Operation H.F.

Intention to lay mines between 049° 02' N., and 048° 57' 30" N., and 003° 06' W., and 003° 20' W.
(iii) There is no recent information of shore lights in vicinity of the lay.
(iv) Execution. MANXMAN is to leave Plymouth passing gate at 2015/17 and proceed to take departure from Start Point to carry out lay ordered between 0030 and 0230/18. Position to be checked by taut wire gear.
(v) On completion of lay MANXMAN is to proceed to Portsmouth by Needles channel obtaining a check on Start Point if desired.
(vi) Time start and other lights are required and E.T.A. Needles are to be reported before sailing.
(vii) MANXMAN has full discretion to cancel operation or to jettison mines in a safe condition if circumstances so required.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1308/16 to MANXMAN)

MOST SECRET

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16.9.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys

P.Q. 1. Escort.

4 minesweepers fitted with L.L. and S/A Sweeps are required to escort Convoy P.Q. 1. to Archangel.
2. Convoy sails for Hvalfiord in company with O.N. 19 on 21/9.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to detail and sail HUSSAR and GOSSAMER and two ships of 1st M/S Flotilla. Arrangements are to be made for these ships to embark L.L. Sweeps if not already on board.
4. Ships should be warned to embark warm clothing.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 2238A/16 to C. in C. W.A.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Submarine Operations.

Your 1659A/15, my 1235/10* and C. in C. Med. 1219/13*.
2. UTMOST and URGE are both carrying out important operations before and after period of "Halberd" UPRIGHT will be moving from south of Messina, thus URSULA and UPRIGHT will be south and UTMOST North of Straits.
3. Of five "U" class submarines lost this summer, 3 were on 1st patrol and other 2 here less than 2 months. I do not favour sending submarines new to Mediterranean conditions to patrol in area thoroughly compromised by past sinking, and propose TRUSTY patrols south of Stromboli and Polish S/M SOKOL between Vulcano and Milazzo.
4. UPHOLDER knows Marittimo St. Vito area well and consider he should remain there.
(V.A. Malta, 1321B/16 to S.O. Force H.)
*(Hush, Most secret distribution, N.T. in W.D.)

MOST SECRET.

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16.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GLENROY,
CLAN FORBES,
Port T.
Port W.

C. in C. China's 0352Z/13 and C. in C. Med's 1259C/15. GLENROY and CLAN FORBES should sail as arranged in C. in C. Med's 1352C/11. Return of GLENROY is not to be delayed. CLAN FORBES may if necessary be delayed at either T. or W. but is to be released as soon as practicable. T. is to have priority over W, delay being acceptable at the latter if unavoidable. If necessary party for W. must wait at Singapore till base ship is ready. C. in C. E.I. should consider what use can be made of an A.M.C. or ATREUS, or a Boom Carrier to assist temporarily in the administrative problem or with the transport of stores but establishment of seaward defences must not be prejudiced. A.M. 1639A/16 refers so far as Boom Carriers are concerned. Subject to the foregoing, C's in C. China and E.I. are requested to make the best arrangements they can.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1748A/16 to C's in C. Med., E.I., China, etc.)
Your 1259/15.
(1) When I heard that you were sending CLAN FORBES in addition to GLENROY I assumed that these ships would come under my operational control, and to economize in shipping, I planned that the former should be sent to Bombay to collect guns and the large quantity of stores which M.N.B.D.O. R/C had shown to be essential to the operation.
(2) I agree GLENROY should proceed direct to port T. and I hope extra week which you have now allowed will enable her to complete her unloading in time.
(3) I suggest future control of CLAN FORBES should now be arranged between C. in C. China and myself.
(C. in C. E.I. 1846Z/16 to C. in C. Med.)

America and West Indies.

Task Groups
2.5
2.6
2.7

Route for Task Group 2.5 referred to in my 160330 is: From R/V at Bermuda through 22° N. 35° W. 27° N. 28° 30' W. 30° N. 28° - 30' W. thence to Bermuda. Task group 2.6 arrive Bermuda from 30° N. 35° W. on 18/9 leave Bermuda 26th passing through points 16°N 37° - 30' W. 31° - 30' N. 37° - 30' W. and vicinity Bermuda. Thence to Hampton Roads arriving 10/10. Task Group 2.7 less LONG ISLAND leave Bermuda 17/9 scheduled pass through positions 32° - 30' N., 30° W. 38° N. 30° W. and vicinity Bermuda, arriving Hampton Roads 1/10 but modifying schedule to reach Hampton Roads 5 days earlier.
(Opnav., 2245/16 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

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16.9.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

Rabaul, defences

Presume Australian Govt. will communicate direct with Washington over acceptance of offer of defence material for Rabaul. Request you will keep Admiralty informed of progress. Following comments on efficacy of defences proposed by U.S. may be useful.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2140A/16 to A.C.N.B.)

17.9.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Oilers for operations.

My 0919A/14. Consider 2 oilers of which BLACK RANGER can be one will now be sufficient for the operations envisaged in northern waters. One of the 3 oilers mentioned can therefore be withdrawn for other duties.
(C. in C. H.F. 1310A/17 to Adty.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

GLENROY, CLAN FORBES.

Your 1846/16 para 3. No objection, but D. of S.T. has only agreed to use of CLAN FORBES for limited period on passage to Calcutta. Certain quantity of commercial cargo not exceeding 2000 tons is being embarked for India.
My 1325/11. Is escort being provided?
(C. in C. Med. 1127B/17 to C. in C. E.I.)
Certain units of M.N.B.D.O. are moving to ports T. and W. in GLENROY and CLAN FORBES. After discharging at port T. GLENROY is to return to Suez so as to arrive not later than 18/10.
C. in C. E.I. has been asked to arrange escort and will give (?orders for) onward passage of CLAN FORBES after her arrival at Port T. C. in C. Med. will arrange charts to be issued to both ships. Subject to any further (?instructions) which may be given by C. in C. E.I. request you

/sail

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume

17.9.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

GLENROY
CLAN FORBES
-Contd.

sail GLENROY and CLAN FORBES to port T (?leaving) Suez on 20/9. Signification of ports T and W is being ? sent by letter and when issued to ship should be placed in sealed envelope to be opened after sailing.
S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area pass to GLENROY.
(C. in C. Med. 1201B/17 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal)

China

CHEVREUIL

My 1059A/18/8. F.F.S. CHEVREUIL expects to pass through Panama Canal 22/9 for Tahiti and service in Pacific under orders of Free French Naval Authorities.
2. CHEVREUIL has been instructed that in event of extention of hostilities in the Pacific she will come under the strategic command of C. in C. China and under the immediate operational command of A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B. according to her whereabouts. These authorities, however, may not divert her from her chief duty of defence of French possessions without the agreement of the Free French High Commissioner in Pacific.
3. F.F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT is requested to inform Free French High Commissioner.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1744A/17 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary
Operations Volume.

17.9.1941.
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

DIOMEDE — Leave Bermuda a.m./19 and carry out following programme:
Jamaica 22-23/9; Colon 25/9; Balboa 25-26/9; San Diego 4-5/10; Esquimalt 8-15/10; San Francisco 17-18/10.
Proceed thence to R.V. with Oiler ORANGELEAF about 093° W., time and exact position will be communicated in due course.
(ii) Take Oiler ORANGELEAF under your orders and establish patrol to westward of Galapagos Islands outside U.S. operating area given in my 1222Q/2 amended by my 1213Q/5.
(iii) B.A.D. Washington is requested to arrange for fuel at Balboa, San Diego and San Francisco as in para 1.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1552Q/17 to DIOMEDE)

18.9.1941.
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Destroyers for Arctic Service. — Your 1629A/14/9 to C. in C. H.F. Work required in Destroyers for service in the Arctic. Consider that all H.F. destroyers should be fitted except "A" Class which are too old to work satisfactorily under these conditions.
(R.A.D., 1600A/18, to Admty.)

Co-operation with Russia

Soviet (?K) two returned from patrol off Vardo today Westbound loaded merchant vessel 3,000 to 4,000 tons sunk by gun fire in 70 40 N., 30 20 E. 12/9. No other vessel sighted during eight days patrol.
Mines laid in area enclosed by following
(A) to North (?70) 24 North.
(B) to (? South) 70 (?17) North
(C) to East 31 15 E.
(D) to West by coast.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk 2217C/18)

/My 1919C/28/8.....

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS

Co-operation with Russia-Contd.

My 1919C/28/8 Soviet K. 1. leaves patrol Vestfjord 20/9 returning through positions 69 40 N., 11 50 E., 72 30 N., 20 E.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 2219C/18 to Admty. Repeated F.O.S., C.in C. H.F., V.A. 2.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Cruisers

Your 2355/12. Your shortage of cruisers is fully realised but, as you appreciate, the shortage is universal.
2. It had been hoped that release of A.M.C's from escorting S.L. convoys in accordance with Admty. 1209/4/8 would assist you in covering trade on your station.
3. Implementation of Admty. 1532/20/6 represents the limit of possible cruiser reinforcements at present.
(A.C.N.S., (F) 2311A/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

America & West Indies

RESOLUTION

Admty. 1905A/3. Request you will sail RESOLUTION to arrive in approx. 48° N., 25° W. a.m./4/10.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange actual R/V and to provide A/S escort to U.K.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1910A/18 to Cs in C. A.W.I., W.A.)

ADMIRALTY WAR DIARIES

26 November 1940 - 6 February 1941

(Also German Ships sunk or damaged (one envelope).
16. January 1944 to 26 June 1944

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
16.1.44		U/Boat	Attacked and apparently damaged by BLIGH of E.G. C.5 about 300 miles N. of the Azores while escorting Convoy H.X. 274.	16.1.44 p.252
16.1.44		2 U/Boats	Reported sunk by A/C from U.S.Escort Carrier GUADALCANAL in 40.30 N. 37.20 W. (about 300 miles W. by N. of Flores.)	18.1.44 p.295
19.1.44		U/Boat	Attacked with Hedgehog and apparently damaged by VIOLET of E.G.133 about 330 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear while escorting Convoy O.S. 65/K.M.S.39.	19.1.44 p.297 20.1.44 p.324
20.1.44		Destroyer or T.Boat	Claimed damaged by Albacore A/C off Berck-sur-mer after having passed through Straits of Dover.	21.1.44 p.328
20.1.44	SKAGGERAK	Minelayer	Reported (B.2) sunk by A/C off Egero	25.1.44 p.392
24.1.44		E/Boat	Set on fire by Coastal Forces south of Vada Rock.	24.1.44 p.381
26.1.44		?Minelayer	Damaged by A/C in Parsekia Bay, Paros, Aegean.	27.1.44 p.434 -5
28.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by Sunderland D/461 in 53.15 N. 15.52 W. (180 miles S.W. of Black Sod Bay)	2.2.44 p.35
29.1.44		M/class Minesweeper	Set on fire off Gravelines by M.T.Bs 417 and 418.	30.1.44 p.483 -4
29.1.44		M.L.	Damaged by air attack in Corfu area.	1.2.44
30.1.44		U/Boat	Blown to surface by STORD about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B. Sunk.	30.1.44 p.478 1.2.44 p.4.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by OFFA and INCONSTANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	30.1.44 p.482 1.2.44 p.4

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly sunk by HARDY, about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44. p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly damaged by HARDY about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably sunk by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by SAVAGE and VIGILANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
31.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE of E.G. 2 in about 50.14 N. 17.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Lands End.)	31.1.44 p.498 1.2.44 p.20 4.2.44 p.79 5.2.44 p.79
3.2.44		U/Boat	Oil and wreckage seen after attack by A/C (40 miles N.W. of Latakia) (no co-ordinates given.)	4.2.44 p.68
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Probably sunk by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, BRISSENDEN and WENSLEYDALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Damaged by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT BRISSENDEN and WENSLEY-DALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		Elbing-class destroyer	Damaged by gunfire from TANATSIDE off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly sunk by HARDY, about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44. p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly damaged by HARDY about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably sunk by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by SAVAGE and VIGILANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
31.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE of E.G. 2 in about 50.14 N. 17.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Lands End.)	31.1.44 p.498 1.2.44 p.20 4.2.44 p.79 5.2.44 p.79
3.2.44		U/Boat	Oil and wreckage seen after attack by A/C (40 miles N.W. of Latakia) (no co-ordinates given.)	4.2.44 p.68
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Probably sunk by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, BRISSENDEN and WENSLEYDALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Damaged by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT BRISSENDEN and WENSLEY-DALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		Elbing-class destroyer	Damaged by gunfire from TANATSIDE off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
6.2.44		Patrol Vessel	Engaged with gunfire and left on fire by M.T.Bs. 618 and 619 in Sognesjoen during a V.P. operation.	6.2.44 p.94
6.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by Liberator from Ascension in 10.40 S. 23.10 W. (540 miles S.W. of Ascension) U.S.Cruiser OMAHA picked up 14 survivors.	6.2.44 p.102 7.2.44 p.111 9.2.44 p.143
8.2.44		Escort Vessel	Believed sunk by ULTOR off S. coast of France.	17.2.44 p.236
8.2.44 (?0120Z/9)		U/Boat	Claimed sunk by WOODPECKER of E.G.2 in 49.04 N. 17.02 W. (about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear) while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38.	9.2.44 p.138-9 15.2.44 p.258
9.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38 Oil, wreckage, human remains.	9.2.44 p.138-9 15.2.44 p.258
9.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by MAGPIE about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38. Oil, wreckage, human remains.	9.2.44 p.138-9 15.2.44 p.258
10.2.44		U/Boat	Attacked and claimed sunk by Swordfish A/C from FENCER in 53.47 N. 17. 57 W. about 270' West of Slyne Head while supporting Convoy 223.	10.2.44 p.153-4 15.2.44 p.259
10.2.44		2 U/Bs.	Straddles with D/Cs. claimed by Liberator G/53 on 2 U/Bs. on surface in 49.53 N. 17. 20 W. About 12 yellow planks seen after attacks.	15.2.44 p.258
10.2.44		U/Boat	Promising attack by Wellington O/612 in 56.17 N. 13.22 W.	15.2.44 p.259

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
10.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by LOSSIE of E.G.10 in 52.40 N. 022.41 W. Under-water explosions heard and black objects broke surface.	21.2.44 p. 546
11.2.44		U-Boat	Attacked and claimed sunk by WOODPECKER and WILD GOOSE of E.G.2 on A/S Patrol in 5000 N. 18.14 W. (about 500 miles west of Lands End.) Oil, wreckage, human remains.	11.2.44 p.173-5 15.2.44 p.358
11.2.44		U-Boat	Probably damaged by GERANIUM and SCARBOROUGH about 480 miles west of Ushant while escorting convoy O.G.67/K.M.S.41	11.2.44 p.173-4 17.2.44 p.282
11.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Wellington D/407 in 60.45 N. 12.50 W.	15.2.44 p.359
12.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Liberator G/200 in 61.10 N. 27.15 W.	15.2.44 p.359
14.2.44		U-Boat	Two hits with depth charges estimated by A/C of Eastern Air Command in 46.13 N. 44.52 W. (350 miles E. of C. Race.	14.2.44 p.235-6
15.2.44		1 F-Boat 1 E-Boat 1 Trawler	Claimed sunk by M.T.B.456 during attack on enemy convoy off Ijmuiden.	15.2.44 p.243-5
15.2.44		4 E-Boats 1 Trawler 1 Flak ship	Damaged by M.T.Bs. off Ijmuiden.	15.2.44 p.243-5
15.2.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk in 27.40 N. 40.40 W. (900 miles S.W. of Azores) by A/C from CROATAN (U.S.escort carrier, C.T.G.21.15) Nationality of S/M not established.	17.2.44 p.290
16.2.44		M/S type	6 hits with R.P. by A/Cs in Zante Harbour.	17.2.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
18.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by SPEY of E.G.10 in 48.32 N. 023.36 W. (560 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. 45 survivors.	18.2.44 p.296-7 19.2.44 p.316 21.2.44 p.346 24.2.44 p.397-8 29.2.44 p.490
18.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by ROTHER of E.G.10 in 48.32 N. 023.36 W. on large air bubble.	21.2.44 p.346
18.2.44		U-Boat	Good straddle by Halifax P/58 in 47. 59 N. 15.30 W.	22.2.44 p.373
19.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by SPEY and LOSSIE of E.G.10 in 48.31 N. 22.41 W. (about 560 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. 19 survivors.	19.2.44 p.316-8 20.2.44 p.331 21.2.44 p.346 24.2.44 p.397-8 29.2.44 p.490
19.2.44	U.264	U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING of E.G.2 in 48.31 N. 22.05 W. (about 540 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. Many prisoners taken.	19.2.44 p.316-3
19.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by FINDHORN of E.G.10 in 49.24 N. 023.32 W. Water-surface seen in flames.	21.2.44 p.346
Night 20/ 21.2.44		E-Boat	Sunk by patrol boats off Anzio.	21.2.44 p.353
Night 20/ 21.2.44		E-Boat	Probably driven ashore by patrol boats off Anzio.	21.2.44 p.353
22.2.44		Destroyer or T.B.	Hit by one torpedo by aircraft (15-20 miles N.W. of Candia Crete.)	23.2.44 p.359

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
22.2.44		?cruiser	Fortress A/C reports direct hit on stern of possible cruiser off Silba I. (approx. 44½ N. 14½ E. E. coast of Adriatic.)	26.2.44 p.445
23.2.44		E-Boat	Sunk by GARTH on patrol in 100° Smiths Knoll Bell Buoy 4 miles.	23.2.44 p.379-80
24.2.44	U.257	U-Boat	Sunk by WARRENPOINT with MIMOSA in 47.19 N. 26.00 W. (940 miles west of St. Nazaire) while supporting convoy H.G. 153.	24.2.44 p.395-6 29.2.44 p.499
24.2.44	U.761	U-Boat	Sunk in 35.57 N. 05.44 W. (Straits of Gib.) by U.S.N. P.A.B.Catalinas 14 & 15 of V.P.63 assisted by ANTHONY & WISHART & U.S.N. Ventura A of U.S.127 & British Catalina G of 202.	24.2.44 p.401 25.2.44 p.439 3.3.44 p.41 - 2 9.5.44 p.127
24.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed damaged by VIVIEN while escorting convoy F.S.71 about 25 miles E. of Gt. Yarmouth.	25.2.44 p.415-6
24.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed damaged by EGLINTON off Gt. Yarmouth during attack on convoy F.S. 71.	25.2.44 p.415-6
25.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina A/C in 70.26 N. 012.40 E. (about 400 miles W. by S. of the N.Cape) while supporting convoy J.W.57.	25.2.44 p.417-8 29.2.44 p.499 8.5.44
25.2.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by M.T.B. patrol about 15 miles N.W. by N. of Ijmuiden.	25.2.44 p.415-6
26.2.44	U.91	U-Boat	Sunk by GORE and AFFLECK of E.G.1 in 49.45 N. 026.20 W. (660 miles W. by S. of C.Clear) on A/S patrol. 16 survivors.	26.2.44 p.434-5 29.2.44 p.499

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
27.2.44		Escort trawler	Attacked and set on fire by M.T.Bs. 415 and 431 off St. Helier (Jersey). An explosion seen later.	27.2.44 p.455
29.2.44		1 Escort vessel, 2 E-Boats	Estimated sunk by LE MALIN and LE TERRIBLE in attack on convoy in 44.20 N. 14.30 E. (30 miles N.W. of Zara North Adriatic.)	29.2.44 p.495 29.2.44 p.495
29.2.44		2 M.Ls.	One reported destroyed and one damaged by Allied A/Cs off coast of Yugoslavia.	1.3.44 p.11
29.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed destroyed by Allied A/C between Corfu and mainland.	1.3.44 p.12
1.3.44		U-Boat	Attacked by E.G.1 and sunk by AFFLECK in 45.46 N. 023.10 W. (about 370 miles W. of Rochefort) 1 P.O.W. taken.	1.3.44 p.4 - 5 8.3.44 p.134 10.3.44 p.162
1.3.44		3 U-Boats	Two or possibly 3 U-Boats believed sunk by T.G.21.16 (BLOCK ISLAND and destroyers) in 48. 50 N. 26.00 W. (about 840 miles W. by S. of Lands End.)	1.3.44 p.4 - 5
1.3.44		U-Boat	Believed sunk by T.G.21.16 (BLOCK ISLAND and destroyers) in 48.30 N. 25.30 W. (about 840 miles W. of Ushant.)	2.3.44 p.20 - 21
3.3.44		2 E-Boats	Probably sunk by Albacore A/C off Cap de la Hague while returning from Lyme Bay to Cherbourg.	3.3.44 p.37
3.3.44		1 E-Boat	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Cap de la Hague.	3.3.44 p.37
3.3.44		2 E-Boats	Reported damaged by Russians in Kilk Atlama (Black Sea).	12.3.44 p.201

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
4.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 75.05 N. 26.40 E. (about 180 miles S.E. of Bear Island) while escorting convoy R.A.57. 35 survivors.	4.3.44 p.55 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.263.
5.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 73.10 N. 13.45 E. (about 180 miles S. E. of Bear Island) while escorting convoy R.A.57. Survivors seen in water.	5.3.44 p.68 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.263
5.3.44		Destroyer	Reported sunk off Lister (Norway) by aerial torpedo.	13.4.44
5.3.44		F-Boat	Hit by A/Cs and left sinking in Peljesac Channel, Yugoslavia.	6.3.44 p.95
6.3.44	U.744	U-Boat	Sunk by Escort Group C.2 (S.O. ICARUS) in 52.01 N. 028.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Valentia) while supporting convoy H.X.280.	6.3.44 p.85-6 10.3.44 p.162
6.3.44		Escort trawler	Hit by torpedoes (3) from M.T.Bs. 241, 225 and 234 on patrol about 8 miles S.W. of Ijmuiden and not seen again.	6.3.44 p.87
6.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 70.04 N. 05.48 E. (about 280 miles E. by S. of Jan Mayen) while supporting convoy R.A.57. 3 survivors picked up.	7.3.44 p.103 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.265
6.3.44		Gun coaster	Probably sunk by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 693 and 695 during attack on enemy convoy off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6
6.3.44		Escort trawler	Damaged by M.T.Bs. of 53rd M.T.B.Flot. off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
6.3.44		R-Boat	Damaged by M.T.Bs. of 55rd M.T.B.Flot. off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6
8.3.44		Escort vessel	Set on fire after several explosions by attack by A/C in 350° Candia 5 miles.	8.3.44 p.129
Night 8/ 9.3.44		250/300 ft. destroyer	Set on fire and violent explosions as result of attack with R.P. by Beaufighter in Rhodes, Cos, Scarpanto area.	10.3.44 p.165
10.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Sunderland A/C in 52.35 N. 20.19 W. (about 360 miles W. by N. of Valentia.) Survivors in dinghies.	10.3.44 p.160
10.3.44		Flak trawler	Hit by guns and left on fire by M.T.Bs. of 55th M.T.B.Flot. off Terschelling.	10.3.44 p.161-2
10.3.44	Believed U.845	U-Boat	Sunk by FORESTER, ST. LAURENT and SWANSEA in 48.47 N. 021.02 W. (about 580 miles W. by S. of Lands End.) while escorting convoy S.C.154. 45 prisoners taken.	10.3.44 p.154 11.3.44 p.176
10.3.44	U.450	U-Boat	Sunk by ESCOR, URCHIN, BERCON and BLENHEATHRA in 40.55 N. 12.28 E. (N.W. of Ponza) during Op. "Shingle".	10.3.44 p.165
10.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by H.M.T.MULL in 38.07 N. 09.41 E. (between Sardinia and Tunisia) whilst escorting a small convoy.	26.3.44 p.462 27.3.44 p.469-70
11.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by 3 Catalinas in 41.28 S. 17.40 E. (390 miles S. of Capetown). Wreckage seen. Considered by C. in C. S.A. probably sunk. (Op. "Wicketkeeper".)	11.3.44 p.182 12.3.44 p.198 14.3.44 p.230

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
11.3.44		1 destroyer several submarines	Reported hit by air attack at Toulon.	12.3.44 p.174.
11.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack in Kiik Atlama, Black Sea.	19.3.44 p.329 29.3.44
11.3.44		4 E-Boats	Damaged by Russian air attack in Kiik Atlama, Black Sea.	19.3.44 p.329
13.3.44	T.575	U-Boat	Sunk by PRINCE ROPERT, escorting convoy O.N.227, with U.S.Destroyers HOBSON and HAVERFIELD and A/C from BOGUE of T.C.21.11, 1100 miles due W. of La Rochelle (46. 10 (or 18') N. 027. 34 W.) Many survivors rescued.	18.3.44 p.209-11 15.3.44
13.3.44		E-Boat	Set on fire in Feodosia by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
14.3.44		3 E-Boats	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 698, 724 and 705 off Dunkirk.	15.3.44 p.247
15.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING with WILD GOOSE & MAGPIE of E.G.2 in 55.46 N. 024.55 W. (about 520 miles W. of Slyne Head.)	15.3.44 p.244-5
15.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk by gunfire from M.T.B.418 off Cap Gris Nez.	16.3.44 p.264-5
15.3.44		Trawler	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.B.418 off Cap Gris Nez.	16.3.44 p.264-5
16.3.44		E-Boat	One E-Boat sunk (claimed) by BRISTENDEN & MELBREAK about 20 miles S.W. of Wolf Rock.	16.3.44 p.261-2

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
16.3.44		E-Boats	Two E/Bs hit by 4 inch shell and several damaged by close-range weapons from BRIDGEWATER and HASLEMERE about 20' S.W. of Wolf Rock.	16.3.44 p.261-2
16.3.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk by U.S. N.M.A.D.Catalinas 1,7 & 8 of V.P.63, and AFFLECK & VANOC in Straits of Gib. in 220° Europa 14.4 miles.	16.3.44 p.268 5.6.44
16.3.44		U-Boat E-Boat	Sunk in Dnieper Estuary by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
16.3.44		2 M.Ls.	Damaged by shore battery in Dnieper Estuary.	19.3.44 p.329 29.3.44
17.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.CORRY, BRONSTEIN and A/C from BLOCK ISLAND (T.C.21.16) in 16. 42 N. 30.28 W. (285 miles W. of St. Antonio, C.Verde Is.)	17.3.44 p.295
17.3.44		U-Boat	Probably severely damaged by SLAZAK, aircraft, etc. after attacking convoy S.N.F.17, in 37.03 N. 05.27 E.	17.3.44 p.279 4.5.44
17.3.44		4 E-Boats	Set on fire in Feodosia by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
17.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk at Ochakov by Russian air attack.	28.3.44 p.436
17.3.44		2 M.Ls. 4 E-Boats	Damaged as above.	28.3.44 p.436 2.4.44. p.29
18.3.44		Gunboat	Left beached and on fire after attack by Spitfires in mouth of River Drin, Albania.	19.3.44 p.297
19.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk by F.C.545 W. of Anzio (Op. "Shingle".)	19.3.44 p.328

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
19.3.44	U.801	U-Boat	Sunk by BLOCK ISLAND's group in 13.03 N. 33.38 W. (440 miles W.S.W. of C.Verde Is.)	20.3.44 p.350
19.3.44		U-Boat	Second U-Boat probably sunk by BLOCK ISLAND's Group in 13.08 N. 33.42 W.	21.3.44 p.365
19.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk off Cape Tarkhan by Russian air attack.	23.3.44 p.486
19.3.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged off Cape Tarkhan by Russian air attack.	23.3.44 p.486
21.3.44		U-Boat	Probably severely damaged by U.S.S. SPENCER in 35.59 N. 05.24 W. (Straits of Gibraltar.)	4.5.44
23.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by BLOCK ISLAND's Group in 13.15 N. 33.40 W. (440 miles W.S.W. of C.Verde Is.)	24.3.44 p.414
24.3.44		E/R Boat	Probably sunk by M.T.Bs. 699 and 693 off Gravelines.	24.3.44 p.403-9
24.3.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by M. T.Bs. 699 and 693 off Gravelines.	24.3.44 p.403-9
24.3.44		4E-Boats	Attacked by Spitfires off Padman I. (Yugoslavia) 1 exploded, 2 caught fire, 1 left sinking.	25.3.44 p.454
24.3.44	SCHWABEN-LAND	Catapult ship	Probably torpedoed by TERRAPIN off Lister on 24th March and photographed beached at Abelnes (about 50 miles S.E. of Stavanger) on 31st March.	1.4.44 p.1 3.4.44 p.39 7.4.44 p.38
26.3.44		E-Boat	Damaged 5 miles E. of Smiths Knoll Buoy by MACKAY guarding flank of convoy F.S.1	26.3.44 p.444-5

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
29.3.44		R-Boats	Several R-Boats damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs.611, 614 602, 613, 608 and 615 during engagement off Dieppe.	29.3.44 p. 497-8
29.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING of E.G.2 about 180 miles N.E. by N. of the Faroes while supporting Convoy J.W.58.	31.3.44 p. 492 15.4.44 p. 241 17.4.44 p. 275
30.3.44	U. 223	U-Boat	Sunk by 14th D.F. and 2 U.S. Destroyers in 38.54 N. 14.18 E. (60 miles N.E. of Palermo)	30.3.44 p. 520
31.3.44		R-Boat	Set on fire by German escorts during attack on Convoy by M.T.Bs. off St. Quentin.	31.3.44 p. 532
Night 1/ 2.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by KEPPEL while escorting Convoy J.W. 58.	2.4.44 p. 18 15.4.44 p. 241
Night 2/ 3.4.44		I Boat	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. off Jeka, Hvar Island Adriatic.	5.4.44 p. 72
3.4.44	TIRPITZ	Battleship	Damaged in Alten Fiord by bombs from A/C of Fleet Air Arm during Operation "Tungsten".	3.4.44 p. 38 4.4.44 p. 51-2 5.4.44 p. 68 6.4.44 p. 81-2 18.4.44 p. 294 1.6.44
3.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by A/C from Escort Carrier TRACKER in 73° 44' N. 027° 12' E. (about 150 miles N. by E. of North Cape) while supporting Convoy J.W. 58.	4.4.44 p. 53 5.4.44 p. 67 15.4.44 p. 241
3.4.44		3 M.Ls.	Sunk by Russian air attacks in Feodosia area.	7.4.44 p. 103
3.4.44		2 M.Ls.	Damaged as above.	7.4.44 p. 103

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 5/ 6.4.44		E-Boat	Sunk by M.T.Bs. and P.Ts. from Bastia, no position given.	7.4.44 p. 104
Night 5/ 6.4.44		Flak ship	Damaged by M.T.Bs. and P.Ts. from Bastia, no position given.	7.4.44 p. 104
Night 5/ 6.4.44		I.R Boat	Damaged by Russian E-Boats off Odessa.	11.4.44 p. 169
6.4.44		U-Boat	Claimed sunk by SWALE of E.G. B.7 in 45° 05' N. 035° 11' W. (about 360 miles N.W. by N. of Flores, Azores) while escorting Convoy S.C.156.	6.4.44 p. 82-4
6.4.44		Gun Coaster	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 445, 440 and 438 during attack on enemy convoy off Den Helder.	6.4.44 p. 84
6.4.44		2 F-Boats	One hit by bomb, one near missed off Populonia, Italy.	7.4.44
6.4.44		F-Boat	Hit with 250 lb. bomb off Populonia (W. Coast of Italy)	9.4.44
7.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by T.G. 21.15 (CROATEN and 5 Drs. in 40.18 N. 62.06 W. (about 240 miles S. of Halifax N.S.) (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa gives position 40. 33 N. 62.22 W.)	8.4.44 p. 123 12.4.44 p. 197
8.4.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged in Kiik Atlama (Black Sea) by Russian aircraft.	11.4.44 p. 169
9.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.GUADAL-CANAL's group in 35. N. 19 W. (95 miles N. of Madeira).	10.4.44 p. 159
9.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by vessels and A/Cs. of GUADAL-CANAL's Group in 35 N. 19 W. (95 miles N. of Madeira). 41 prisoners taken.	10.4.44 p. 143
9.4.44		I.R Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack off Sulina.	11.4.44 p. 169

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
10.4.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by M.T.Bs. of 54th Flotilla and left burning fiercely during attack on enemy convoy off the Texel.	11.4.44 p. 164-5
10.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S. GUADALCANAL's Group in 33.31 N. 18.43 W. (about 95 miles N. of Madeira).	11.4.44 p. 175.
10.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S. Naval Liberator in 15.37 S. 17.00 W. (470 miles S.S.W. of Ascension Island)	11.4.44 p. 167
11.4.44		E/R Boat	Damaged by gunfire from German Escort Vessels during attack by M.T.Bs. of 54th Flotilla on an enemy convoy off the Texel.	11.4.44 p. 164-5
11.4.44		E-Boat 4 M.Ls.	Sunk by Russian aircraft at Feodosia.	16.4.44 p. 265
11.4.44		E-Boat	Damaged as above.	16.4.44 p. 265
Night 11/12.4.44		I Boat	Sunk in Adriatic by M.G.Bs.	14.4.44 p. 230
12.4.44		M.L.	Sunk by Soviet E-Boat off CapeTarkhan, Black Sea.	16.4.44 p. 265
12.4.44		M.L.	Damaged as above.	16.4.44 p. 265
13.4.44		Destroyer	Direct hit by Russian aircraft off Sevastopol.	16.4.44 p. 265
14.4.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft off south Crimea coast.	16.4.44 p. 265.
14.4.44	U. 448	U-Boat	Sunk after creeping attack by SWANSEA of E.G.9 and PELICAN of E.G.7 in 46° 32' N. 19° 37' W. (about 720 miles West of La Rochelle). C.O., 4 Officers and 37 ratings rescued.	14.4.44 p. 222-3 15.4.44 p. 241

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
16.4.44	U. 550	U-Boat	Shelled, rammed and sunk by U.S.S.GANDY, JOYCE and PETERSON in approx. 40.07 N. 69.24 W.	16.4.44 p. 269 2.5.44 p. 26
17.4.44		U-Boat	Attacked on surface by A/C S/162 in 60° 23' N. 29° 20' W. (about 250 miles S.W. of Reykjavik) and apparently sunk. Violent explosion and wreckage seen.	17.4.44 p. 276-7 18.4.44 p. 296
18.4.44		U-Boat	Attacked while on surface& apparently abandoned by A/C of 172 Sqdn. in 47° 00' N. 06° 50' W. (about 180 miles West of St. Nazaire) and seen by A/C at 180818B to have foundered.	18.4.44 p. 289
18.4.44		Minesweeper	Sunk by Russian air attack westward of Crimea.	21.4.44 p. 355
18.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack westward of Crimea.	28.4.44 p. 477
19.4.44		U-Boat	Torpedoed by Norwegian S/M ULA in 59° 08' N. 05° 23' E. (close off Stavanger). Two explosions and breaking-up noises heard.	24.4.44 p. 398 28.4.44 p. 471
20.4.44		2 E-Boats	1 probably sunk, 1 believed damaged 15 miles W. of Anzio by U.S.S. EBERLE.	20.4.44 p. 337
22.4.44 23.4.44 24.4.44		E-Boat 3 R-Boat Gunboat Escort Vessel	All sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
23 and 24.4.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 484
Night 24/25.4.44		Destroyer	Apparently damaged on Allied minefield off Capraia (30 miles S. of Leghorn) and subsequently sunk by Allied coastal forces and aircraft.	26.4.44 p. 441

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 24/ 25.4.44		Destroyer	Apparently damaged on Allied minefield off Capraia when in company with previous one.	26.4.44 p. 441
25.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
26.4.44		Destroyer	Sunk by HAIDA, ATHABASKAN, ASHANTI and HURON 7 miles West of Les Heaux (Brittany) during Operation "Tunnel".	26.4.44 p. 432-3
26.4.44		Escort Vessel.	Damaged by A/C from Forces 7 and 8 during attack on Convoy off Bodo (Norway).	26.4.44 p. 433-4
26.4.44	S. 147	E-Boat	Sunk in Channel by LA COMBATTANTE about 30 miles N.E. by E. of Cap Barfleur.	27.4.44 p. 451 28.4.44 p. 469-70
26.4.44		U-Boat	Believed sunk by CROATEN's group in 17.52 N. 38.04 W. (720 miles W. by N. of Cape Verde Is.)	27.4.44 p. 454
26.4.44.		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
27.4.44		Destroyer	Bombed and left on fire by A/C TLR/71 about 100 miles W. of St. Nazaire.	27.4.44 p. 448-9
27.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian A/C in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
27.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Soviet E-Boat in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
27.4.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by Soviet E-Boats in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
29.4.44		KLBING class destroyer	Set on fire and run ashore 7 miles E. by N. of Ile de Vierge (Brittany) during action with HAIDA & ATHABASKAN. Torpedoed ashore by M.T.B.673 on 7th May and considered a total loss.	29.4.44 p. 487-9 7.5.44 p. 96-7

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
30.4.44		R-Boat, M.L.	Sunk by Russian A/C in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
Night 1/ 2.5.44		3 I-Boats	Sunk off Brac I., Adriatic, by coastal forces.	3.5.44 p. 39
2.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by A/C from FENCER about 180 miles S.E. of Jan Mayen Island while escorting Convoy R.A. 59.	D.O.R. 1723
3.5.44		U-Boat	Damaged by A/C from Escort Carrier (ACTIVITY or FENCER) escorting Convoy R.A. 59. No position given.	3.5.44 p. 32
3.5.44	?U. 852	U-Boat	Scuttled after being hunted and damaged by aircraft off Ras Hafun; wreck grounded in 09.35 N. 50.48 E. (south of C. Guardafui).	3.5.44 p. 40 4.5.44 p. 59 23.5.44
4.5.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by Beau-fighter A/C 10 miles N.E. of Cherbourg.	A.S.O.S. 1261
4.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Wellington A/C M/407 in 46.04 N. 09.20 W. (Bay of Biscay). 9 bodies and 3 survivors seen.	9.5.44 p. 135
4.5.44	U.371	U-Boat	Sunk by BLANKNEY and U.S. Dr. SUSTAIN in 36.50 N. 05.34 E. (off Bougie). 49 survivors.	4.5.44 p. 58 1.6.44
6.5.44	U. 66	U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.BUCKLEY of Task Group 21.11 in about 17 N. 32 W. (520 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) Survivors picked up.	6.5.44 p. 87-8 7.5.44 p.99-100
6.5.44	U.473	U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING, WILD GOOSE and WREN in 49° 29' N. 021° 22' W. (about 630 miles W. by S.Lands End) after a contact hunt of 15 hours. 30 prisoners taken.	6.5.44 p. 81-2 8.5.44 p. 110 11.5.44 p. 148

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
6.5.44	U.765	U-Boat	Sunk after attack by KEATS, BICKERTON and BLIGH of E.G.5 by A/C from VINDEX in 52° 30' N. 025° 28' W. (about 700 miles W. by S. of Valentia). C.O. and survivors rescued.	6.5.44 p. 82 7.5.44 p. 96 11.5.44
6.5.44		Escort Vessel	Hit by bomb from A/C off Christiansund during Operation "Croquet".	6.5.44 p. 84
Night 6/ 7.5.44		Large destroyer type vessel	Straddled by 8 R.Ps. by A/C, probably hit, left enveloped in smoke. Between Patmos and Lepsos (Aegean).	8.5.44 p. 115
8.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked and believed possibly sunk by E.C.5 (S.O. in BICKERTON) in 54° 05' N. 029° 10' W. (about 700 miles W. of Erris Head).	8.5.44 p. 110 9.5.44 p. 123
Night 10/ 11.5.44		R-Boat	Damaged by coastal forces off Vada Rocks whilst escorting a merchant ship.	12.5.44 p. 167
11.5.44		Armed Trawler	Hit by torpedo from M.T.B.467 in action off Schouwen (Dutch coast) and seen to break in half with both ends burning.	11.5.44 p. 149
11.5.44		Two Armed Trawlers	One trawler set well on fire and another damaged by gunfire from M.T.B. Patrol off Schouwen (Dutch coast).	11.5.44 p. 149
12.5.44		Armed Trawler	Hit by gunfire and left on fire by M.T.Bs.450, 453, 454 about 2 miles N.W. by N. of the Western Entrance of Cherbourg.	12.5.44 p. 158
13.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by LA COMBATTANTE about 18 miles S. by E. of Selsey Bill.	13.5.44 p. 174-5

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
13.5.44		E-Boat	Damaged by gunfire from LA COMBATTANTE about 18 miles S. by E. of Selsey Bill.	13.5.44 p. 174-5
13.5.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by U.S.S. ROBINSON of T.G. 22.2 in 18.33 S. 10.20 W. (St. Helena area).	16.5.44 p. 222-3
Night 13/ 14.5.44		E-Boat	One or probably two sunk by patrols off Anzio.	16.5.44 p. 225
Night 13/ 14.5.44.		I Boat	Sunk by M.Ls. south of Peljesac Peninsula, Adriatic.	16.5.44 p. 225
14.5.44		Two Armed Trawlers	Damaged by fighter A/C from STRIKER or EMPEROR near Stadlandet during Operation "Potluck".	15.5.44 p. 205-6
14.5.44		Minesweeper	Left listing after attack by Beaufighter A/C off the Dutch Coast. No position given.	15.5.44 p. 207
15.5.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk in 36. 00 N. 05.38 W. (Straits of Gibraltar) by M.A.D Catalinas P.12/63 and P.1/63, BLACKFLY and KILMARNOCK.	15.5.44 p. 209 16.5.44 p. 222 17.5.44 p. 237 23.6.44 27.6.44
17.5.44	U.616	U-Boat	Sunk by aircraft and U.S. destroyers in 37.47 N. 00.16 E. (90 miles N.N.W. of Tenes).	17.5.44 p. 239 1.6.44
17.5.44		E-Boat	Hit by gunfire from QUORN during action off Hearty Knoll and flash of explosion seen later.	17.5.44 p. 234
17.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked and apparently damaged by Catalina A/C about 90 miles W.N.W. of Stadlandet.	17.5.44 p. 236
18.5.44		E-Boat	Hit by 4-inch shell from TANATSIDE about 40 miles S.W. of Portland Bill and claimed probably sunk.	18.5.44 p. 248-9
18.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina A/C S/210 in 63° 36' N. 001° 42' E. (about 130 miles N.W. of Stadlandet).	18.5.44 p. 254 24.5.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
18.5.44		E-Boat	2 hits by Spitfire in Marina di Pisa.	19.5.44
Night 18/ 19.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by coastal forces off Peljesac Peninsula, Yugoslavia.	21.5.44 p.304
19.5.44	U.960	U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.destroyers and a Ventura A/C in 37.55 N. 01. 29 E. (65 miles N. of Tenes.)	19.5.44 p.274-5 1.6.44
19.5.44		Destroyer	Claimed damaged by Beaufighter A/C 7 miles N.E.of Ushant.	A.S.O.S. 1276
19.5.44		Minesweeper	Attacked left in flames by Beaufighter A/C 7 miles N.E. of Ushant.	A.S.O.S. 1276
19/20.5.44		E-Boat	Apparently sunk by A/C at ?Sarandi (Gulf of Corinth.)	21.5.44 p.304
19/20.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by A/C in Loviste Bay (?Neretva Channel, Adriatic.)	21.5.44 p.304
Night 19/ 20.5.44		E or R Boat	Destroyed by destroyers off Albanian coast.	22.5.44
20.5.44		E-Boat	Apparently damaged by gunfire from KITTIWAKE off No. 54A Buoy (Harwich area.)	20.5.44 p.281-2
20.5.44		2 E-Boats	Claimed set on fire off Ostend by Swordfish A/C from Manston.	20.5.44 p.281-2
20.5.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by Albacore A/C while returning from Start Pt. area.	20.5.44 p.283
20.5.44		3 E-Boats	Claimed damaged by Albacore A/C while returning from Start Point area.	20.5.44 p.283
20.5.44		Trawler	Torpedoed and sunk by French M.T.B.90 about 11 miles W. by S. of La Corbiere (Jersey)	20.5.44 p.283

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
21.5.44	U.455	U-Boat	Sunk by TENACIOUS, LIDDESDALE, TERMAGANT and A/C in 38.13 N. 16.36 E. (off Punta Stilo S.E. coast of Italy.)	21.5.44 p.504-5 1.6.44
22.5.44		Escort vessel	Hit by 1 or 2 torpedoes from UNIVERSAL whilst beached off Ciotat (between Marseilles and Toulon); considered destroyed.	27.5.44
23.5.44		Armed schooner or motor boat	Sunk by Hurricanes on Dalmatian coast.	24.5.44
23.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Wellington E/407 in 49. 16 N. 05.38 W. (58 miles S. of Start Point) and contact lost at once.	30.5.44
Night 23/ 24.5.44		Corvette	Sunk by P.T.boats off Vada Rocks, W. coast of Italy.	25.5.44
Night 23/ 24.5.44		Corvette	Damaged by P.T.boats off Vada Rocks, W. coast of Italy.	25.5.44
24.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Sunderland A/C in 62.27 N. 05. 04 E. 60 miles W. N.W. of Stadtlandet (Norway). Bodies and wreckage seen.	24.5.44 p.351 30.5.44 1.6.44
24.5.44		U-Boat	Hit and believed sunk by /C V/120 in about 65.05 N. 004. 49 E. (150 miles W. of Vigen Island, Norway.)	24.5.44 p.351
24.5.44		M-class minesweeper	Claimed sunk by torpedo from M.T.B.208 in action about 40 miles E.S.E. of Cap Barfleur.	24.5.44 p.349
24.5.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 611, 602 and 614 in action 30 miles N. N.E. of Cap Barfleur.	24.5.44 p.349

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
25.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Liberator S/59 in 65.05 N. 07.20 E. (90 miles W. of Vigen Is. Norway) and last seen circling.	30.5.44
27.5.44		U-Boat	Straddled by Liberator S/59 in 62.37 N. 00.57 E. (130 miles W. of Aalesund, Norway.)	30.5.44
Night 29/30.5.44		2 E-Boats	Estimated damaged by coastal forces S. of Peljesac Peninsula.	6.6.44
31.5.44		Small minesweeper	Sunk by ULTOR off Cape Camarat.	1.6.44
1.6.44		4 Flak ships	Hit by fighter A/C during attack on convoy off Kvamme Island, Norway (62.12 N.) in Op. "Lombard".	2.6.44
1.6.44		1 destroyer 1 U/J Boat	Damaged by air attack N. of Candia whilst escorting a convoy from Piraeus.	2.6.44
1.6.44		1 destroyer	Damaged as above: reached Heraklion and sank in harbour, either from damage 1st June or from air attack on Heraklion 2nd June.	2.6.44 3.6.44 4.6.44
1.6.44		Minesweeper	Reported (B.3) sunk by A/C of F.A.A. off Kvamme Island, near Stadtlandet, Norway, during Op. "Lombard".	D.O.R. 1752
2.6.44		Suspected minelayer	Sunk by ULTOR off Port Vendres.	2.6.44
2.6.44		Minesweeper	Damaged by cannon from Mosquito A/C 7 miles S.W. of Lorient.	A.3.0.5. 1290
3.6.44		U-Boat	Straddled with depth charges by Canso A/C T/162 in 63.59 N. 01. 37 E. (130 miles N.W. of Stadtlandet (Norway)). 5 survivors seen in water.	3.6.44 D.O.R. 1751

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
3.6.44		2 E-Boats	Sunk in air attacks on 2 convoys in Leghorn - Piombino area.	4.6.44
3.6.44		1 E-Boat	Severely damaged in air attacks on 2 convoys in Leghorn - Piombino area.	4.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Direct hits by Wellington A/C in Med. (?Adriatic.)	5.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Destroyed by R.P. Hurricanes off W. coast of Italy.	5.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged as above.	5.6.44
Reported 5.6.44	U.505	S/M	Captured (apparently off Rio del Oro. No details known.)	5.6.44
5 or 6.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by A/C off Ostrone.	7.6.44
7.6.44		U-Boat	Straddled by Sunderland S/201 at 0249 in 45.13 N. 08.30 W.	20.6.44
Night 7/8.6.44		3 U-Boats	Probably Sunk. Attacked by A/C Coastal Command. 2 claimed destroyed & 2 probably destroyed. These include attack at 2353 by Sunderland R/228 in 45.15 N. 04.10 W. and at 0242/8 by Liberator Q/224 in 48.10 N. 05.51 W. when survivors were seen in dinghies after attack. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 20.6.44
8.6.44		U-Boat	Damaged in attack by SKREMA in 49.00 N. 5.30 W. Hit claimed with hedgehog. Oil and bubbles. (Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
8.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by OBEDIENT 177° Beachy Head 37 miles.	8.6.44
8.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed sunk.	8.6.44 10.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
8.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 10.6.44
8.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed damaged and beached. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 10.6.44
8.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk at 0215 by Liberator G/224 in 48.27 N. 05.47 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44 28.6.44
9.6.44		Destroyer	Sunk by H.M.destroyer (D.10) Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N.Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
9.6.44		Destroyer	Sunk. Beached on fire on Ile de Bas. Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N. Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44 10.6.44
9.6.44		2 destroyers	Damaged. Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N. Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
9.6.44		800 ton U/J Boat*	Probably sunk by UNTIRING off Cape Sicie (S.France.)	10.6.44
9.6.44		U/J Boat (corvette)	Hit with gunfire & torpedo off C. Taillat (S.France) believed sunk by CASABLANCA.	17.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		Escort vessel	Damaged by A/C cannon fire off Seriphos I. Aegean.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		R-Boat	Blown up by coastal forces in Milet Channel, Adriatic.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		I-Boat	Damaged as above.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		E-Boat	Probably sunk. Flank of Assault Approach Channel. Op. "Neptune".	10.6.44

* A.F.H.Q.Algiers 121847B June describes these vessels as small torpedo boats.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
10.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 2201 by E.C.5 in 49.49 N. 05.19 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44
10.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk. Severely damaged by Mosquito TJ-V/248 fighter in 48.42 N. 05. 08 W. (5 miles off Ushant) and later sunk by Liberator K/206. Survivors and wreckage seen in water. (Op. "Neptune".)	10.6.44 11.6.44 20.6.44
10.6.44		800 ton U/J Boat*	Sunk by UNTIRING off Ciotat, S. France.	10.6.44
Night 10/ 11.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by DUFF off Cape Barfleur. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1759 11.6.44
Night 10/ 11.6.44		E-Boats	1 set on fire, others damaged - off Cape Barfleur. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1759 11.6.44
11.6.44		U-Boat	Damaged by RIOU in 49.59 N. 05.32 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	11.6.44
11.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Canso B/162 A/C 200 miles W. of Christiansund in 63. 07 N. 00.26 E. 55 survivors in water.	11.6.44
Reported 11.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by HIND in 50.11 N. 03.42 W. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44
Night 11/ 12.6.44		E-Boat	Hit by 4" shell from MELBREAK off Cap d'Antifer. Probably sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1761
Night 11/ 12.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by BLACKMOOR & ROCKSFORD in 43. 31 N. 15.52 E. (Yugoslav coast.)	14.6.44
12.6.44		E-Boat	Direct hit by A/C in Korcula harbour.	13.6.44

* A.P.H.Q.Algiers 121847B June describes these vessels as small torpedo boats.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
12.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S. CROATAN group in 42.25 N. 59. 56 W. (440 miles W.N.W. of Flores) 61 prisoners.	12.6.44
Reported 12.6.44		E-Boat	Set on fire - A/C of Coastal Command off Flushing and S. of Boulogne. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	12.6.44
13.6.44		Artillery Boat	Hit by bomb, aground alongside quay Ialmy. Sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		U-Boat	SOURCE considers damaged - 147° S. C.P. 14½ miles. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		5 E-Boats	Sunk off Boulogne by Coastal A/C. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		E-Boats	Set on fire or damaged off Boulogne by Coastal A/C. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		E/R Boats	2 probably destroyed, 2 seriously damaged, 7 slightly damaged, Beaufighter A/C in Gris Nez area. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44
13.6.44		3 mine-sweepers or trawlers	1 set on fire, 2 damaged - Beaufighter A/C in Gris Nez area. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44
13.6.44		5 mine-sweepers	Sunk by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany Coast. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44 15.6.44
13.6.44		Minesweeper	Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany coast. (Operation "Neptune".) Probably sunk.	14.6.44 15.6.44
13.6.44		2 mine-sweepers	Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany Coast. (Operation "Neptune".	14.6.44 15.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
~~15.6.44~~		~~2 mine-sweepers~~	~~Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PICKLE between Channel Isles and Brittany coast. (Op. "Neptune".)~~	~~14.6.44 15.6.44~~
13.6.44	U-Boat	Heavy explosion and thick column of black smoke to 1000 ft. 16 minutes after depth charge attack by Wellington 34 miles S.W. of Brest. U/B was surfaced northbound. Posn. ?47.59 N. 05.33 W. ?damaged or sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	A.S.O.S. 1302 14.6.44
13.6.44	U-Boat	Sunk by Canso A/C T/162 in 62.45 N. 02.01 W. (130 miles N.N.W. of Muckle Flugga.) Survivors picked up.	14.6.44 20.6.44 A.S.O.S. 1301 A.S.O.S. 1302.
Night 13/ 14.6.44	Minesweeper	Claimed set on fire by DUFF off Cap la Hague. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1761
14.6.44	E-Boat	Claimed sunk by a Wellington A/C 15 miles S.W. of St. Valery. (Operation "Neptune".)	14.6.44
14.6.44	3 E-Boats	Claimed damaged by a Wellington A/C 15 miles S.W. of St. Valery. (Operation "Neptune".)	14.6.44
14.6.44	U-Boat	HMS engaged contact off Start Point - S.C. of E.C. considers sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	15.6.44
14.6.44	U-Boat	Promising attack by Mosquito 70 miles N.W. of Bergen. 2 bodies seen in the water. Position 61. 06. N. 03.25 E.	15.6.44 A.S.O.S. 1302
Night 14/ 15.6.44	E-Boat	Air raid on Havre. Aground. (Op. "Neptune")	15.6.44
Night 14/ 15.6.44	E-Boat	Air raid on Havre. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune")	15.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 14/ 15.6.44		T.L.C.S	Air raid on Havre. Capsized. (Op. "Neptune".)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Probably hit by Hedgehog from DUCKWORTH, 35 miles S.S.E. of Portland Bill. (Operation "Neptune".)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.escort carrier SOLOMON's group in 25.10 S. 04.55 west (600 miles S. of St. Helena.)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked by SATYR in 68.01 N. 005.03 E. (170 miles W. of the Lofoten Is.) U/B appeared to break in half.	24.6.44 28.6.44
16.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Mosquito A/C in 61.01 N. 003.00 E. (60 miles S.W. of Stadtlandet, Norway.)	16.6.44
17.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Norwegian manned Catalina A/C D/333 in 63.06 N. 02.05 E. about 100 miles N.W. of Stadtlandet, Norway. 40 survivors and wreckage seen.	17.6.44 20.6.44
Reported 17.6.44		2 Q caiques 1 U/J boat.	Destroyed by UNSWERVING in Potamo.	17.6.44
Night 17/ 18.6.44		Corvette	Silenced and set on fire aft by coastal forces in Piombino Channel.	19.6.44
18.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by FAME (S.O.14) in 49.08.00 N. 05. 13.00 W. (off Sept Isles.) 1 survivor recovered. (Op. "Neptune".)	18.6.44 20.6.44
19.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by air attack between Kalimno and Cape Daphni.	19.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 20/ 21.6.44		Corvette	2 torpedo hits by coastal forces between Leghorn and Spezia.	25.6.44
Night 20/ 21.6.44		K.T.ship	One hit as above.	25.6.44
21.6.44		U/J Boat	Destroyed by UNSPARING or UNSWERVING north of C. Malea, Greece.	26.6.44 25.6.44
21.6.44		250 ton A/A yacht	Sunk by UNIVERSAL off Riou I. S. France.	25.6.44
21.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 0830 by Wellington A/304 in 50.00 N. 02.50 W.	28.6.44
21.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Sunderland A/C L/228 and Halifax D/502 in 49.36 N. 8.28 W. Probably damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	21.6.44 28.6.44
22.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by U.S. Liberator M/103 in 49.15 N. 05.12 W. Oil & wreckage seen.	28.6.44
23.6.44		Escort trawler	Sunk by M.T.B. Unit G.C.2, 8 miles S. of La Corbiere, Channel Is. (Operation "Neptune".)	23.6.44
23.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Wellington and Liberator at 1614 25 miles S.W. of Jersey. Wreckage seen. (Op. "Neptune".)	24.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by Albacore A/C off Calais.	A.I.O.S. No. 1311
23.6.44		E-Boat	Destroyed by Albacore A/C off Dunkirk.	A.I.O.S. No. 1311
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Dunkirk.	A.I.O.S. No. 1311

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
23.6.44		2 patrol boats	Sunk by UNSWERVING in Aegean. No details.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	Probably sunk by Wellington A/C off The Hague.	28.6.44
23.6.44		R/R Boat	Sunk by Albacore A/C off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 R/R Boats	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Calais.	28.6.44
25.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by Albacore A/C 5 miles N. of Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		R/R Boat	Bombs from Swordfish A/C straddled off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		M-class minesweeper	Damaged by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	1 set on fire, 1 damaged by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Left sinking by Beaufighter A/C turning into Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	R.P. and cannon hits by Beaufighter A/C turning into Boulogne.	28.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 2400342 in 15.16 N. 39.55 W. (900 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) Oil and debris.	25.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack in same position at 2402562.	25.6.44
~~24.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by A/C D/333 in 62.55 N. 06.00 E. (150 miles N. by E. of the Shetlands.)~~	~~26.6.44~~
~~24.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by HAIDA and HURONE in 49.50 N. (or 59 N.) 05.45 W. Survivors picked up by "Neptune".~~	~~28.6.44~~

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
24.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by destroyer HAIDA in 48.59 N. 05.48 W. survivors picked up. (On "Neptune".)	24.6.44 28.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina F/162 in 62.55 N. 00.00. A/C shot down by U/B. Survivors of U/B seen but not rescued. Survivors of F/162 rescued.	28.6.44 26.6.44
Reported 24.6.44		E/R Boat	Sunk at eastern end of Channel by A/C. Operation "Neptune".	24.6.44
Reported 24.6.44		E/R Boat	Damaged at eastern end of Channel by A/C. Operation "Neptune".	24.6.44
Night 24/25.6.44		Torpedo boat	Driven ashore, total loss, on Murter Is. Adriatic.	26.6.44
25.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by frigate MCKERTON in 50.00 N. 03.00 W. (32 miles S. E. of Start Pt.) Survivors picked up.* Operation "Neptune"	25.6.44
~~25.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by Frigate MCKERTON (32 miles S.E. of Start Pt.) Survivors picked up. Operation "Neptune".~~	~~25.6.44~~
26.6.44		U-Boat	Considered by ships of 1st E.S. to be mortally hit in 50. 03 N. 02.52 W.* Operation "Neptune".	26.6.44
26.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked and believed sunk by BULLDOG in 54.34 N. 011.04 W. (30 miles W.N.W. of Erris Head, Ireland.)	26.6.44
26.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Liberator M/86 in 62.03 N. 01.45 E. (90 miles W. by S. of Stadt-landet, Norway). 15 survivors seen.	26.6.44 28.6.44

* Note: Wrecks of 2 U/Bs were fixed in 50.01 N. 02.50 W. and 50.03 N. 02.56.30 W. 1 is that sunk by MCKERTON and the other was sunk by attack on night 25/26 June (C. in C. Plymouth 282100B June 1944.)

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German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
16.1.44		U/Boat	Attacked and apparently damaged by BLIGH of E.G. C.5 about 300 miles N. of the Azores while escorting Convoy H.X. 274.	16.1.44 p.252
16.1.44		2 U/Boats	Reported sunk by A/C from U.S.Escort Carrier GUADALCANAL in 40.30 N. 37.20 W. (about 300 miles W. by N. of Flores.)	18.1.44 p.295
19.1.44		U/Boat	Attacked with Hedge-hog and apparently damaged by VIOLET of E.G.133 about 330 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear while escorting Convoy O.S. 65/K.M.S.39.	19.1.44 p.297 20.1.44 p.324
20.1.44		Destroyer or T.Boat	Claimed damaged by Albacore A/C off Berck-sur-mer after having passed through Straits of Dover.	21.1.44 p.328
20.1.44	SKAGGERAK	Minelayer	Reported (B.2) sunk by A/C off Egero	25.1.44 p.392
24.1.44		E/Boat	Set on fire by Coastal Forces south of Vada Rock.	24.1.44 p.381
26.1.44		?Minelayer	Damaged by A/C in Parsekia Bay, Paros, Aegean.	27.1.44 p.434 -5
28.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by Sunderland D/461 in 53.15 N. 15.52 W. (180 miles S.W. of Black Sod Bay)	2.2.44 p.35
29.1.44		M/class Mine-sweeper	Set on fire off Grave-lines by M.T.Bs 417 and 418.	30.1.44 p.483 -4
29.1.44		M.L.	Damaged by air attack in Corfu area.	1.2.44
30.1.44		U/Boat	Blown to surface by STORD about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B. Sunk.	30.1.44 p.478 1.2.44 p.4.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by OFFA and INCONSTANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	30.1.44 p.482 1.2.44 p.4

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly sunk by HARDY, about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44. p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly damaged by HARDY about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably sunk by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by SAVAGE and VIGILANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
31.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE of E.G. 2 in about 50.14 N. 17.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Lands End.)	31.1.44 p.498 1.2.44 p.80 4.2.44 p.79 5.2.44 p.79
3.2.44		U/Boat	Oil and wreckage seen after attack by A/C (40 miles N.W. of La-Nakia) (no co-ordinates given.)	4.2.44 p.68
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Probably sunk by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, BRISSENDEN and WENSLEYDALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Damaged by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT BRISSENDEN and WENSLEY-DALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		Elbing-class Destroyer.	Damaged by gunfire from TANATSIDE off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
6.2.44		Patrol Vessel	Engaged with gunfire and left on fire by M.T.Bs. 618 and 619 in Sognesjoen during a V.P. operation.	6.2.44 p.94
6.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by Liberator from Ascension in 10.40 S. 23.10 W. (540 miles S.W. of Ascension) U.S.Cruiser OMAHA picked up 14 survivors.	6.2.44 p.102 7.2.44 p.111 9.2.44 p.143
8.2.44		Escort Vessel	Believed sunk by ULTOR off S. coast of France.	17.2.44 p.286
8.2.44 (?0120Z/9)		U/Boat	Claimed sunk by WOODPECKER of E.G.2 in 49.04 N. 17.02 W. (about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear) while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38.	9.2.44 p.138 - 9 15.2.44 p.258
9.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38 Oil, wreckage, human remains.	9.2.44 p.138 - 9 15.2.44 p.258
9.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by MAGPIE about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38. Oil, wreckage, human remains.	9.2.44 p.138-9 15.2.44 p.258
10.2.44		U/Boat	Attacked and claimed sunk by Swordfish A/C from FENCER in 53.47 N. 17.57 W. about 270° West of Slyne Head while supporting Convoy 223.	10.2.44 p.153-4 15.2.44 p.259
10.2.44		2 U/Bs.	Straddles with D/Cs. claimed by Liberator G/53 on 2 U/Bs. on surface in 49.53 N. 17. 20 W. About 12 yellow planks seen after attacks.	15.2.44 p.258
10.2.44		U/Boat	Promising attack by Wellington O/612 in 58.17 N. 13.22 W.	15.2.44 p.259

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
10.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by LOSSIE of E.G.10 in 52.40 N. 022.41 W. Under-water explosions heard and black objects broke surface.	21.2.44 p. 346
11.2.44		U-Boat	Attacked and claimed sunk by WOODPECKER and WILD GOOSE of E.G.2 on A/S Patrol in 50.00 N. 18.14 W. (about 500 miles west of Lands End.) Oil, wreckage, human remains.	11.2.44 p.172-3 15.2.44 p.258
11.2.44		U-Boat	Probably damaged by GERANIUM and SCARBOROUGH about 480 miles west of Ushant while escorting convoy O.S.67/K.M.S.41	11.2.44 p.173-4 17.2.44 p.282
11.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Wellington D/407 in 60.45 N. 12.50 W.	15.2.44 p.259
12.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Liberator G/200 in 61.10 N. 27.15 W.	15.2.44 p.259
14.2.44		U-Boat	Two hits with depth charges estimated by A/C of Eastern Air Command in 46.13 N. 44.52 W. (350 miles E. of C.Race.	14.2.44 p.235-6
15.2.44		1 F-Boat 1 E-Boat 1 Trawler	Claimed sunk by M.T. B.455 during attack on enemy convoy off Ijmuiden.	15.2.44 p.243-5
15.2.44		4 E-Boats 1 Trawler 1 Flak ship	Damaged by M.T.Bs. off Ijmuiden.	15.2.44 p.243-5
15.2.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk in 27. 40 N. 40.40 W. (900 miles S.W. of Azores) by A/C from CROATEN (U.S.escort carrier, C.T.G.21.13) Nationality of S/M not established.	17.2.44 p.290
16.2.44		M/S type	6 hits with R.P.by A/Cs in Zante Harbour.	17.2.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
18.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by SPEY of E.G.10 in 48.32 N. 023.36 W. (560 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.S.29. 45 survivors.	18.2.44 p.296-7 19.2.44 p.316 21.2.44 p.346 24.2.44 p.397-8 29.2.44 p.490
18.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by ROTHER of E.G.10 in 48.32 N. 023.36 W. on large air bubble.	21.2.44 p.346
18.2.44		U-Boat	Good straddle by Halifax P/58 in 47. 39 N. 15.30 W.	22.2.44 p.373
19.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by SPEY and LOSSIE of E.G.10 in 48.31 N. 22.41 W. (about 560 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. 19 survivors.	19.2.44 p.316-8 20.2.44 p.331 21.2.44 p.346 24.2.44 p.397-8 29.2.44 p.490
19.2.44	U.264	U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING of E.G.2 in 48.31 N. 22.05 W. (about 540 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. Many prisoners taken.	19.2.44 p.316-8
19.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by FINDHORN of E.G.10 in 49.24 N. 023.32 W. Water-surface seen in flames.	21.2.44 p.346
Night 20/ 21.2.44		E-Boat	Sunk by patrol boats off Anzio.	21.2.44 p.353
Night 20/ 21.2.44		E-Boat	Probably driven ashore by patrol boats off Anzio.	21.2.44 p.353
22.2.44		Destroyer or T.B.	Hit by one torpedo by aircraft (15-20 miles N.W. of Candia Crete.)	23.2.44 p.359

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
22.2.44		?cruiser	Fortress A/C reports direct hit on stern of possible cruiser off Silba I. (approx. 44½ N. 14½ E. E. coast of Adriatic.)	26.2.44 p.445
23.2.44		E-Boat	Sunk by GARTH on patrol in 100° Smiths Knoll Bell Buoy 4 miles.	23.2.44 p.379-80
24.2.44	U.257	U-Boat	Sunk by WASKESIU with NENE in 47.19 N. 26.00 W. (940 miles west of St. Nazaire) while supporting convoy S.C. 153.	24.2.44 p.395-6 29.2.44 p.499
24.2.44	U.761	U-Boat	Sunk in 35.57 N. 05.44 W. (Straits of Gib.) by U.S.N. M.A.D.Catalinas 14 & 15 of V.P.63 assisted by ANTHONY & WISHART & U.S.N. Ventura S of U.B.127 & British Catalina G of 202.	24.2.44 p.401 25.2.44 p.429 3.3.44 p.41 - 2 9.5.44 p.127
24.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed damaged by VIVIEN while escorting convoy F.S.71 about 25 miles E. of Gt. Yarmouth.	25.2.44 p.415-6
24.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed damaged by EGLINTON off Gt. Yarmouth during attack on convoy F.S. 71.	25.2.44 p.415-6
25.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina A/C in 70.26 N. 012.40 E. (about 400 miles W. by S. of the N.Cape) while supporting convoy J.W.57.	25.2.44 p.417-8 29.2.44 p.499 8.3.44
25.2.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by M.T.B. patrol about 15 miles N.W. by N. of Ijmuiden.	25.2.44 p.415-6
26.2.44	U.91	U-Boat	Sunk by GORE and AFFLECK of E.G.1 in 49.45 N. 026.20 W. (660 miles W. by S. of C.Clear) on A/S patrol. 16 survivors.	26.2.44 p.434-5 29.2.44 p.499

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
27.2.44		Escort trawler	Attacked and set on fire by M.T.Bs. 415 and 431 off St. Helier (Jersey). An explosion seen later.	27.2.44 p.455
29.2.44		1 Escort vessel, 2 E-Boats	Estimated sunk by LE MALIN and LE TERRIBLE in attack on convoy in 44.20 N. 14.30 E. (30 miles N.W.of Zara North Adriatic.)	29.2.44 p.495 29.2.44 p.495
29.2.44		2 M.Ls.	One reported destroyed and one damaged by Allied A/Cs off coast of Yugoslavia.	1.3.44 p.11
29.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed destroyed by Allied A/C between Corfu and mainland.	1.3.44 p.12
1.3.44		U-Boat	Attacked by E.G.1 and sunk by AFFLECK in 45.46 N. 023.10 W. (about 870 miles W. of Rochefort) 1 P.O.W. taken.	1.3.44 p.4 - 5 8.3.44 p.134 10.3.44 p.162
1.3.44		3 U-Boats	Two or possibly 3 U-Boats believed sunk by T.G.21.16 (BLOCK ISLAND and destroyers) in 48. 50 N. 26.00 W. (about 840 miles W. by S. of Lands End.)	1.3.44 p.4 - 5
1.3.44		U-Boat	Believed sunk by T.G.21.16 (BLOCK ISLAND and destroyers) in 48.30 N. 25.30 W. (about 840 miles W. of Ushant.)	2.3.44 p.20 - 21
3.3.44		2 E-Boats	Probably sunk by Albacore A/C off Cap de la Hague while returning from Lyme Bay to Cherbourg.	3.3.44 p.37
3.3.44		1 E-Boat	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Cap de la Hague.	3.3.44 p.37
3.3.44		2 E-Boats	Reported damaged by Russians in Kiik Atlama (Black Sea).	12.3.44 p.201

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
4.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER & ONSLAUGHT in 73.05 N. 26.40 E. (about 180 miles S.E. of Bear Island) while escorting convoy R.A.57. 25 survivors.	4.3.44 p.55 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 16.3.44 p.263.
5.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 72.10 N. 13.45 E. (about 180 miles S. S.W. of Bear Island) while escorting convoy R.A.57. Survivors seen in water.	5.3.44 p.68 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.263
5.3.44		Destroyer	Reported sunk off Lister (Norway) by aerial torpedo.	12.4.44
5.3.44		F-Boat	Hit by A/Cs and left sinking in Peljesac Channel, Yugoslavia.	6.3.44 p.95
6.3.44	U.744	U-Boat	Sunk by Escort Group C.2 (S.O.ICARUS) in 52.01 N. 022.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Valentia) while supporting convoy H.X.280.	6.3.44 p.85-6 10.3.44 p.162
6.3.44		Escort trawler	Hit by torpedoes (3) from M.T.Bs. 241, 225 and 234 on patrol about 8 miles S.W. of Ijmuiden and not seen again.	6.3.44 p.87
6.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 70.04 N. 05.48 E. (about 280 miles E. by S. of Jan Mayen) while supporting convoy R.A.57. 3 survivors picked up.	7.3.44 p.103 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.265
6.3.44		Gun coaster	Probably sunk by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 693 and 695 during attack on enemy convoy off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6
6.3.44		Escort trawler	Damaged by M.T.Bs. of 53rd M.T.B.Flot. off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
6.3.44		R-Boat	Damaged by M.T.Bs. of 53rd M.T.B.Flot. off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6
8.3.44		Escort vessel	Set on fire after several explosions by attack by A/C in 350° Candia 5 miles.	8.3.44 p.129
Night 8/ 9.3.44		250/300 ft. destroyer	Set on fire and violent explosions as result of attack with R.P. by Beaufighter in Rhodes, Cos, Scarpanto area.	10.3.44 p.165
10.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Sunderland A/C in 52.35 N. 20.19 W. (about 360 miles W. by N. of Valentia.) Survivors in dinghies.	10.3.44 p.160
10.3.44		Flak trawler	Hit by guns and left on fire by M.T.Bs. of 55th M.T.B.Flot. off Terschelling.	10.3.44 p.161-2
10.3.44	Believed U.845	U-Boat	Sunk by FORESTER, ST. LAURENT and SWANSEA in 48.47 N. 021.02 W. (about 580 miles W. by S. of Lands End,) while escorting convoy S.C.154. 45 prisoners taken.	10.3.44 p.154 11.3.44 p.176
10.3.44	U.450	U-Boat	Sunk by EXMOOR, URCHIN, BRECON and BLENCATHRA in 40.53 N. 12.28 E. (N.W. of Ponza) during Op. "Shingle".	10.3.44 p.165
10.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by H.M.T.HULL in 38.07 N. 09.41 E. (between Sardinia and Tunisia) whilst escorting a small convoy.	26.3.44 p.452 27.3.44 p.469-70
11.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by 3 Catalinas in 41.28 S. 17.40 E. (390 miles S. of Capetown). Wreckage seen. Considered by C. in C. S.A. probably sunk. (Op. "Wicketkeeper".)	11.3.44 p.182 12.3.44 p.193 14.3.44 p.230

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
11.3.44		1 destroyer several submarines	Reported hit by air attack at Toulon.	12.3.44 p.174.
11.3.44		F-Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack in Kiik Atlama, Black Sea.	19.3.44 p.329 29.3.44
11.3.44		4 E-Boats	Damaged by Russian air attack in Kiik Atlama, Black Sea.	19.3.44 p.329
13.3.44	U.575	U-Boat	Sunk by PRINCE RUPERT, escorting convoy O.N.227, with U.S.Destroyers HOBSON and HAVERFIELD and A/C from BOGUE of T.G.21.11, 1100 miles due W. of La Rochelle (46.10 (or 18') N. 027.34 W.) Many survivors rescued.	13.3.44 p.209-11 15.3.44
13.3.44		E-Boat	Set on fire in Feodosia by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
14.3.44		3 E-Boats	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 698, 724 and 705 off Dunkirk.	15.3.44 p.247
15.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING with WILD GOOSE & MAGPIE of E.G.2 in 53.46 N. 024.35 W. (about 520 miles W. of Slyne Head.)	15.3.44 p.244-5
15.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk by gunfire from M.T.B.418 off Cap Gris Nez.	16.3.4 p.264
15.3.44		Trawler	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.B.418 off Cap Gris Nez.	16.? p.2
16.3.44		E-Boat	One E-Boat sunk (claimed) by BRISSENDEN & MELBREAK about 20 miles S.W. of Wolf Rock.	16.3.44 p.261-2

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
16.3.44		E-Boats	Two E/Bs hit by 4 inch shell and several damaged by close-range weapons from BRISSENDEN and MELBREAK about 20' S.W. of Wolf Rock.	16.3.44 p.261-2
16.3.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk by U.S. N.M.A.D.Catalinas 1,7 & 8 of V.P.63, and AFFLECK & VANOC in Straits of Gib. in 220° Europa 14.4 miles.	16.3.44 p.268 5.6.44
16.3.44		F-Boat R-Boat	Sunk in Dnieper Estuary by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
16.3.44		2 M.Ls.	Damaged by shore battery in Dnieper Estuary.	19.3.44 p.329 29.3.44
17.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.CORRY, BRONSTEIN and A/C from BLOCK ISLAND (T.G.21.16) in 16.42 N. 30.28 W. (285 miles W. of St. Antonio, C.Verde Is.)	17.3.44 p.295
17.3.44		U-Boat	Probably severely damaged by SLAZAK, aircraft, etc. after attacking convoy S.N.F.17, in 37.08 N. 05.27 E.	17.3.44 p.279 4.5.44
17.3.44		4 E-Boats	Set on fire in Feodosia by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
17.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk at Ochakov by Russian air attack.	28.3.44 p.486
17.3.44		2 M.Ls. 4 E-Boats	Damaged as above.	28.3.44 p.486 2.4.44. p.28
18.3.44		Gunboat	Left beached and on fire after attack by Spitfires in mouth of River Drin, Albania.	19.3.44 p.297
19.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk by P.C.545 W. of Anzio (Op. "Shingle".)	19.3.44 p.328

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
19.3.44	U.801	U-Boat	Sunk by BLOCK ISLAND's group in 13.03 N. 33.38 W. (440 miles W.S.W. of C.Verde Is.)	20.3.44 p.350
19.3.44		U-Boat	Second U-Boat probably sunk by BLOCK ISLAND's Group in 13.08 N. 33.42 W.	21.3.44 p.363
19.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk off Cape Tarkhan by Russian air attack.	28.3.44 p.486
19.3.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged off Cape Tarkhan by Russian air attack.	23.3.44 p.486
21.3.44		U-Boat	Probably severely damaged by U.S.S. SPENCER in 35.59 N. 05.24 W. (Straits of Gibraltar.)	4.5.44
23.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by BLOCK ISLAND's Group in 13.15 N. 33.40 W. (440 miles W.S.W. of C.Verde Is.)	24.3.44 p.414
24.3.44		E/R Boat	Probably sunk by M.T.Bs. 699 and 698 off Gravelines.	24.3.44 p.408-9
24.3.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by M. T.Bs. 699 and 698 off Gravelines.	24.3.44 p.408-9
24.3.44		4E-Boats	Attacked by Spitfires off Padman I. (Yugoslavia) 1 exploded, 2 caught fire, 1 left sinking.	25.3.44 p.434
24.3.44	SCHWABENLAND	Catapult ship	Probably torpedoed by TERRAPIN off Lister on 24th March and photographed beached at Abelnes (about 50 miles S.E. of Stavanger) on 31st March.	1.4.44 p.1 5.4.44 p.39 7.4.44 p.98
26.3.44		E-Boat	Damaged 5 miles E. of Smiths Knoll Buoy by MACKAY guarding flank of convoy F.S.1	26.3.44 p.444-5

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
29.3.44		R-Boats	Several R-Boats damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs.611, 614 602, 613, 608 and 615 during engagement off Dieppe.	29.3.44 p. 497-8
29.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING of E.G.2 about 180 miles N.E. by N. of the Faroes while supporting Convoy J.W.58.	31.3.44 p. 492 15.4.44 p. 241 17.4.44 p. 275
30.3.44	U. 223	U-Boat	Sunk by 14th D.F. and 2 U.S. Destroyers in 38.54 N. 14.18 E. (60 miles N.E. of Palermo)	30.3.44 p. 520
31.3.44		R-Boat	Set on fire by German escorts during attack on Convoy by M.T.Bs. off St. Quentin.	31.3.44 p. 532
Night 1/ 2.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by KEPPEL while escorting Convoy J.W. 58.	2.4.44 p. 18 15.4.44 p. 241
Night 2/ 3.4.44		I Boat	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. off Jeka, Hvar Island Adriatic.	5.4.44 p. 72
3.4.44	TIRPITZ	Battleship	Damaged in Alten Fiord by bombs from A/C of Fleet Air Arm during Operation "Tungsten".	3.4.44 p. 38 4.4.44 p. 51-2 5.4.44 p. 68 6.4.44 p. 81-2 18.4.44 p. 294 1.6.44
3.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by A/C from Escort Carrier TRACKER in 73° 44' N. 027° 12' E. (about 150 miles N. by E. of North Cape) while supporting Convoy J.W. 58.	4.4.44 p. 53 5.4.44 p. 67 15.4.44 p. 241
3.4.44		3 M.Ls.	Sunk by Russian air attacks in Feodosia area.	7.4.44 p. 103
3.4.44		2 M.Ls.	Damaged as above.	7.4.44 p. 103

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 5/ 6.4.44		E-Boat	Sunk by M.T.Bs. and P.Ts. from Bastia, no position given.	7.4.44 p. 104
Night 5/ 6.4.44		Flak ship	Damaged by M.T.Bs. and P.Ts. from Bastia, no position given.	7.4.44 p. 104
Night 5/ 6.4.44		I.R Boat	Damaged by Russian E-Boats off Odessa.	11.4.44 p. 169
6.4.44		U-Boat	Claimed sunk by SWALE of E.G. B.7 in 45° 05' N. 035° 11' W. (about 360 miles N.W. by N. of Flores, Azores) while escorting Convoy S.C.156.	6.4.44 p. 82-3
6.4.44		Gun Coaster	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 445, 440 and 438 during attack on enemy convoy off Den Helder.	6.4.44 p. 84
6.4.44		2 F-Boats	One hit by bomb, one near missed off Populonia, Italy.	7.4.44
6.4.44		F-Boat	Hit with 250 lb. bomb off Populonia (W. Coast of Italy)	9.4.44
7.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by T.G. 21.15 (CROATEN and 5 Drs. in 40.18 N. 62.06 W. (about 240 miles S. of Halifax N.S.) (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa gives position 40. 33 N. 62.22 W.)	8.4.44 p. 123 12.4.44 p. 197
8.4.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged in Kiik Atlama (Black Sea) by Russian aircraft.	11.4.44 p. 169
9.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.GUADAL-CANAL's group in 35. N. 19 W. (95 miles N. of Madeira).	10.4.44 p. 159
9.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by vessels and A/Cs. of GUADAL-CANAL's Group in 35 N. 19 W. (95 miles N. of Madeira). 41 prisoners taken.	10.4.44 p. 143
9.4.44		I.R Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack off Sulina.	11.4.44 p. 169

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
10.4.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by M.T.Bs. of 54th Flotilla and left burning fiercely during attack on enemy convoy off the Texel.	11.4.44 p. 164-5
10.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S. GUADALCANAL's Group in 33.31 N. 18.43 W. (about 95 miles N. of Madeira).	11.4.44 p. 175.
10.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S. Naval Liberator in 15.37 S. 17.00 W. (470 miles S.S.W. of Ascension Island)	11.4.44 p. 167
11.4.44		E/R Boat	Damaged by gunfire from German Escort Vessels during attack by M.T.Bs. of 54th Flotilla on an enemy convoy off the Texel.	11.4.44 p. 164-5
11.4.44		E-Boat 4 M.Ls.	Sunk by Russian aircraft at Feodosia.	16.4.44 p. 265
11.4.44		E-Boat	Damaged as above.	16.4.44 p. 265
Night 11/ 12.4.44		I Boat	Sunk in Adriatic by M.G.Bs.	14.4.44 p. 230
12.4.44		M.L.	Sunk by Soviet E-Boat off CapeTarkhan, Black Sea.	16.4.44 p. 265
12.4.44		M.L.	Damaged as above.	16.4.44 p. 265
13.4.44		Destroyer	Direct hit by Russian aircraft off Sevastopol.	16.4.44 p. 265
14.4.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft off south Crimea coast.	16.4.44 p. 265.
14.4.44	U. 448	U-Boat	Sunk after creeping attack by SWANSEA of E.G.9 and PELICAN of E.G.7 in 46° 32' N. 19° 37' W. (about 720 miles West of La Rochelle). C.O., 4 Officers and 37 ratings rescued.	14.4.44 p. 222-3 15.4.44 p. 241

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
16.4.44	U. 550	U-Boat	Shelled, rammed and sunk by U.S.S.GANDY, JOYCE and PETERSON in approx. 40.07 N. 69.24 W.	16.4.44 p. 269 2.5.44 p. 26
17.4.44		U-Boat	Attacked on surface by A/C S/162 in 60° 23' N. 29° 20' W. (about 250 miles S.W. of Reykjavik) and apparently sunk. Violent explosion and wreckage seen.	17.4.44 p. 276-7 18.4.44 p. 296
18.4.44		U-Boat	Attacked while on surface& apparently abandoned by A/C of 172 Sqdn. in 47° 08' N. 06° 50' W. (about 180 miles West of St. Nazaire) and seen by A/C at 180618B to have foundered.	18.4.44 p. 289
18.4.44		Minesweeper	Sunk by Russian air attack westward of Crimea.	21.4.44 p. 355
18.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack westward of Crimea.	28.4.44 p. 477
19.4.44		U-Boat	Torpedoed by Norwegian S/M ULA in 59° 08' N. 05° 23' E. (close off Stavanger). Two explosions and breaking-up noises heard.	24.4.44 p. 398 28.4.44 p. 471
20.4.44		2 E-Boats	1 probably sunk, 1 believed damaged 15 miles W. of Anzio by U.S.S. EBERLE.	20.4.44 p. 337
22.4.44 23.4.44 24.4.44		E-Boat 3 R-Boat Gunboat Escort Vessel	All sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
23 and 24.4.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 484
Night 24/25.4.44		Destroyer	Apparently damaged on Allied minefield off Capraia (30 miles S. of Leghorn) and subsequently sunk by Allied coastal forces and aircraft.	26.4.44 p. 441

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 24/ 25.4.44		Destroyer	Apparently damaged on Allied minefield off Capraia when in company with previous one.	26.4.44 p. 441
25.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
26.4.44		Destroyer	Sunk by HAIDA, ATHABASKAN, ASHANTI and HURON 7 miles West of Les Heaux (Brittany) during Operation "Tunnel".	26.4.44 p. 432-3
26.4.44		Escort Vessel.	Damaged by A/C from Forces 7 and 8 during attack on Convoy off Bodo (Norway).	26.4.44 p. 433-4
26.4.44	S. 147	E-Boat	Sunk in Channel by LA COMBATTANTE about 30 miles N.E. by E. of Cap Barfleur.	27.4.44 p. 451 28.4.44 p. 469-70
26.4.44		U-Boat	Believed sunk by CROATEN's group in 17.52 N. 38.04 W. (720 miles W. by N. of Cape Verde Is.)	27.4.44 p. 454
26.4.44.		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
27.4.44		Destroyer	Bombed and left on fire by A/C TLR/71 about 100 miles W. of St. Nazaire.	27.4.44 p. 448-9
27.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian A/C in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
27.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Soviet E-Boat in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
27.4.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by Soviet E-Boats in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
29.4.44		ELBING class destroyer	Set on fire and run ashore 7 miles E. by N. of Ile de Vierge (Brittany) during action with HAIDA & ATHABASKAN. Torpedoed ashore by M.T.B.673 on 7th May and considered a total loss.	29.4.44 p. 487-9 7.5.44 p. 96-7

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
30.4.44		R-Boat, M.L.	Sunk by Russian A/C in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
Night 1/ 2.5.44		3 I-Boats	Sunk off Brac I., Adriatic, by coastal forces.	3.5.44 p. 39
2.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by A/C from FENCER about 180 miles S.E. of Jan Mayen Island while escorting Convoy R.A. 59.	D.O.R. 1723
3.5.44		U-Boat	Damaged by A/C from Escort Carrier (ACTIVITY or FENCER) escorting Convoy R.A. 59. No position given.	3.5.44 p. 32
3.5.44	?U. 852	U-Boat	Scuttled after being hunted and damaged by aircraft off Ras Hafun; wreck grounded in 09.35 N. 50.48 E. (south of C. Guardafui).	3.5.44 p. 40 4.5.44 p. 59 23.5.44
4.5.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by Beau-fighter A/C 10 miles N.E. of Cherbourg.	A.S.O.S. 1261
4.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Wellington A/C M/407 in 46.04 N. 09.20 W. (Bay of Biscay). 9 bodies and 3 survivors seen.	9.5.44 p. 135
4.5.44	U.371	U-Boat	Sunk by BLANKNEY and U.S. Dr. SUSTAIN in 36.50 N. 05.34 E. (off Bougie). 49 survivors.	4.5.44 p. 58 1.6.44
6.5.44	U. 66	U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.BUCKLEY of Task Group 21.11 in about 17 N. 32 W. (520 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) Survivors picked up.	6.5.44 p. 87-8 7.5.44 p.99-100
6.5.44	U.473	U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING, WILD GOOSE and WREN in 49° 29' N. 021° 22' W. (about 630 miles W. by S.Lands End) after a contact hunt of 15 hours. 30 prisoners taken.	6.5.44 p. 81-2 8.5.44 p. 110 11.5.44 p. 148

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
6.5.44	U.765	U-Boat	Sunk after attack by KEATS, BICKERTON and BLIGH of E.G.5 by A/C from VINDEX in 52° 30' N. 028° 28' W. (about 700 miles W. by S. of Valentia). C.O. and survivors rescued.	6.5.44 p. 82 7.5.44 p. 96 11.5.44
6.5.44		Escort Vessel	Hit by bomb from A/C off Christiansund during Operation "Croquet".	6.5.44 p. 84
Night 6/ 7.5.44		Large destroyer type vessel	Straddled by 8 R.Ps. by A/C, probably hit, left enveloped in smoke. Between Patmos and Lepsos (Aegean).	8.5.44 p. 115
8.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked and believed possibly sunk by E.G.5 (S.O. in BICKERTON) in 54° 05' N. 029° 10' W. (about 700 miles W. of Erris Head).	8.5.44 p. 110 9.5.44 p. 123
Night 10/ 11.5.44		R-Boat	Damaged by coastal forces off Vada Rocks whilst escorting a merchant ship.	12.5.44 p. 167
11.5.44		Armed Trawler	Hit by torpedo from M.T.B.467 in action off Schouwen (Dutch coast) and seen to break in half with both ends burning.	11.5.44 p. 149
11.5.44		Two Armed Trawlers	One trawler set well on fire and another damaged by gunfire from M.T.B. Patrol off Schouwen (Dutch coast).	11.5.44 p. 149
12.5.44		Armed Trawler	Hit by gunfire and left on fire by M.T.Bs.450, 453, 454 about 2 miles N.W. by N. of the Western Entrance of Cherbourg.	12.5.44 p. 158
13.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by LA COMBATTANTE about 18 miles S. by E. of Selsey Bill.	13.5.44 p. 174-5

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
13.5.44		E-Boat	Damaged by gunfire from LA COMBATTANTE about 18 miles S. by E. of Selsey Bill.	13.5.44 p. 174-5
13.5.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by U.S.S. ROBINSON of T.G. 22.2 in 18.33 S. 10.20 W. (St. Helena area).	16.5.44 p. 222-3
Night 13/ 14.5.44		E-Boat	One or probably two sunk by patrols off Anzio.	16.5.44 p. 225
Night 13/ 14.5.44.		I Boat	Sunk by M.Ls. south of Peljesac Peninsula, Adriatic.	16.5.44 p. 225
14.5.44		Two Armed Trawlers	Damaged by fighter A/C from STRIKER or EMPEROR near Stadlandet during Operation "Potluck".	15.5.44 p. 205-6
14.5.44		Minesweeper	Left listing after attack by Beaufighter A/C off the Dutch Coast. No position given.	15.5.44 p. 207
15.5.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk in 36. 00 N. 05.38 W. (Straits of Gibraltar) by M.A.D Catalinas P.12/63 and P.1/63, BLACKFLY and KILMARNOCK.	15.5.44 p. 209 16.5.44 p. 222 17.5.44 p. 237 23.6.44 27.6.44
17.5.44	U.616	U-Boat	Sunk by aircraft and U.S. destroyers in 37.47 N. 00.16 E. (90 miles N.N.W. of Tenes).	17.5.44 p. 239 1.6.44
17.5.44		E-Boat	Hit by gunfire from QUORN during action off Hearty Knoll and flash of explosion seen later.	17.5.44 p. 234
17.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked and apparently damaged by Catalina A/C about 90 miles W.N.W. of Stadlandet.	17.5.44 p. 236
18.5.44		E-Boat	Hit by 4-inch shell from TANATSIDE about 40 miles S.W. of Portland Bill and claimed probably sunk.	18.5.44 p. 248-9
18.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina A/C S/210 in 63° 36' N. 001° 42' E. (about 130 miles N.W. of Stadlandet).	18.5.44 p. 254 24.5.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
18.5.44		E-Boat	2 hits by Spitfire in Marina di Pisa.	19.5.44
Night 18/ 19.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by coastal forces off Peljesac Peninsula, Yugo-slavia.	21.5.44 p.304
19.5.44	U.960	U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.des-troyers and a Ventura A/C in 37.35 N. 01. 29 E. (65 miles N. of Tenez.)	19.5.44 p.274-5 1.6.44
19.5.44		Destroyer	Claimed damaged by Beaufighter A/C 7 miles N.E.of Ushant.	A.S.O.S. 1276
19.5.44		Minesweeper	Attacked left in flames by Beau-fighter A/C 7 miles N.E. of Ushant.	A.S.O.S. 1276
19/20.5.44		E-Boat	Apparently sunk by A/C at ?Sarandi (Gulf of Corinth.)	21.5.44 p.304
19/20.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by A/C in Loviste Bay (?Neretva Channel, Adriatic.)	21.5.44 p.304
Night 19/ 20.5.44		E or R Boat	Destroyed by des-troyers off Albanian coast.	22.5.44
20.5.44		E-Boat	Apparently damaged by gunfire from KITTIWAKE off No. 54A Buoy (Harwich area.)	20.5.44 p.281-2
20.5.44		2 E-Boats	Claimed set on fire off Ostend by Sword-fish A/C from Man-ston.	20.5.44 p.281-2
20.5.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by Albacore A/C while returning from Start Pt. area.	20.5.44 p.283
20.5.44		3 E-Boats	Claimed damaged by Albacore A/C while returning from Start Point area.	20.5.44 p.283
20.5.44		Trawler	Torpedoed and sunk by French M.T.B.90 about 11 miles W. by S. of La Corbiere (Jersey)	20.5.44 p.283

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
21.5.44	U.453	U-Boat	Sunk by TENACIOUS, LIDDESDALE, TERMAGANT and A/C in 38.13 N. 16.36 E. (off Punta Stilo S.E. coast of Italy.)	21.5.44 p.304-5 1.6.44
22.5.44		Escort vessel	Hit by 1 or 2 torpedoes from UNIVERSAL whilst beached off Ciotat (between Marseilles and Toulon); considered destroyed.	27.5.44
23.5.44		Armed schooner or motor boat	Sunk by Hurricanes on Dalmatian coast.	24.5.44
23.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Wellington E/407 in 49. 16 N. 03.38 W. (58 miles S. of Start Point) and contact lost at once.	30.5.44
Night 23/ 24.5.44		Corvette	Sunk by P.T.boats off Vada Rocks. W. coast of Italy.	25.5.44
Night 23/ 24.5.44		Corvette	Damaged by P.T.boats off Vada Rocks, W. coast of Italy.	25.5.44
24.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Sunderland A/C in 62.27 N. 03. 04 E. 60 miles W. N.W. of Stadtlandet (Norway). Bodies and wreckage seen.	24.5.44 p.351 30.5.44 1.6.44
24.5.44		U-Boat	Hit and believed sunk by /C V/120 in about 65.05 N. 004. 49 E. (150 miles W. of Vigen Island, Norway.)	24.5.44 p.351
24.5.44		M-class minesweeper	Claimed sunk by torpedo from M.T.B.208 in action about 40 miles E.S.E. of Cap Barfleur.	24.5.44 p.349
24.5.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 611, 602 and 614 in action 30 miles N. N.E. of Cap Barfleur.	24.5.44 p.349

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
25.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Liberator S/59 in 65.05 N. 07.28 E. (80 miles W. of Vigen Is. Norway) and last seen circling.	30.5.44
27.5.44		U-Boat	Straddled by Liberator S/59 in 62.37 N. 00.57 E. (130 miles W. of Aalesund, Norway.)	30.5.44
Night 29/ 30.5.44		2 I-Boats	Estimated damaged by coastal forces S. of Peljesac Peninsula.	6.6.44
31.5.44		Small minesweeper	Sunk by ULTOR off Cape Camarat.	1.6.44
1.6.44		4 Flak ships	Hit by fighter A/C during attack on convoy off Kvamme Island, Norway (62.12 N.) in Op. "Lombard".	2.6.44
1.6.44		1 destroyer 1 U/J Boat	Damaged by air attack N. of Candia whilst escorting a convoy from Piraeus.	2.6.44
1.6.44		1 destroyer	Damaged as above: reached Heraklion and sank in harbour, either from damage 1st June or from air attack on Heraklion 2nd June.	2.6.44 3.6.44 4.6.44
1.6.44		Minesweeper	Reported (B.3) sunk by A/C of F.A.A. off Kvamme Island, near Stadtlandet, Norway, during Op. "Lombard".	D.O.R. 1752
2.6.44		Suspected minelayer	Sunk by ULTOR off Port Vendres.	2.6.44
2.6.44		Minesweeper	Damaged by cannon from Mosquito A/C 7 miles S.W. of Lorient.	A.S.O.S. 1290
3.6.44		U-Boat	Straddled with depth charges by Canso A/C T/162 in 63.59 N. 01. 37 E. (130 miles N.W. of Stadtlandet (Norway)). 5 survivors seen in water.	3.6.44 D.O.R. 1751

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
3.6.44.		2 E-Boats	Sunk in air attacks on 2 convoys in Leghorn - Piombino area.	4.6.44
3.6.44		1 E-Boat	Severely damaged in air attacks on 2 convoys in Leghorn - Piombino area.	4.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Direct hits by Wellington A/C in Med. (?Adriatic.)	5.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Destroyed by R.P. Hurricanes off W. coast of Italy.	5.6.44
4.6.44		R-Boat	Damaged as above.	5.6.44
Reported 5.6.44	U.505	S/M	Captured (apparently off Rio del Oro. No details known.)	5.6.44
5 or 6. 6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by A/C off Cotrone.	7.6.44
7.6.44		U-Boat	Straddled by Sunderland S/201 at 0249 in 45.13 N. 08.30 W.	20.6.44
Night 7/ 8.6.44		3 U-Boats	Probably Sunk. Attacked by A/C Coastal Command. 2 claimed destroyed & 2 probably destroyed. These include attack at 2358 by Sunderland R/228 in 45.15 N. 04. 10 W. and at 0242/8 by Liberator G/224 in 48.10 N. 05.31 W. when survivors were seen in dinghies after attack. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 20.6.44
8.6.44		U-Boat	Damaged in attack by SKEENA in 49.00 N. 5.30 W. Hit claimed with hedgehog. Oil and bubbles. (Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
8.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by OBEDIENT 177° Beachy Head 37 miles.	8.6.44
8.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed sunk.	8.6.44 10.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
8.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 10.6.44
8.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed damaged and beached. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 10.6.44
8.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk at 0215 by Liberator G/224 in 48.27 N. 05.47 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44 28.6.44
9.6.44		Destroyer	Sunk by H.M.destroyer (D.10) Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N.Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
9.6.44		Destroyer	Sunk. Beached on fire on Ile de Bas. Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N. Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44 10.6.44
9.6.44		2 des-troyers	Damaged. Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N. Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
9.6.44		800 ton U/J Boat*	Probably sunk by UNTIRING off Cape Sicie (S.France.)	10.6.44
9.6.44		U/J Boat (corvette)	Hit with gunfire & torpedo off C. Taillat (S.France) believed sunk by CASABIANCA.	17.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		Escort vessel	Damaged by A/C cannon fire off Seriphos I. Aegean.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		R-Boat	Blown up by coastal forces in Mljet Channel, Adriatic.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		I-Boat	Damaged as above.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		E-Boat	Probably sunk. Flank of Assault Approach Channel. Op. "Neptune".	10.6.44

* A.F.H.Q.Algiers 121847B June describes these vessels as small torpedo boats.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
10.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 2201 by E.G.3 in 49.49 N. 03.19 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44
10.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk. Severely damaged by Mosquito TSWV/248 fighter in 48.42 N. 05. 08 W. (3 miles off Ushant) and later sunk by Liberator K/206. Survivors and wreckage seen in water. (Op. "Neptune")	10.6.44 11.6.44 20.6.44
10.6.44		800 ton U/J Boat*	Sunk by UNTIRING off Ciotat, S. France.	10.6.44
Night 10/ 11.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by DUFF off Cape Barfleur. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1759 11.6.44
Night 10/ 11.6.44		E-Boats	1 set on fire, others damaged - off Cape Barfleur. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1759 11.6.44
11.6.44		U-Boat	Damaged by RIOU in 49.59 N. 05.32 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	11.6.44
11.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Canso B/162 A/C 200 miles W. of Christiansund in 63. 07 N: 00.26 E. 35 survivors in water.	11.6.44
Reported 11.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by HIND in 50.11 N. 03.42 W. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44
Night 11/ 12.6.44		E-Boat	Hit by 4" shell from MELBREAK off Cap d'Antifer. Probably sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1761
Night 11/ 12.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by BLACKMOOR & EGGESFORD in 43. 31 N. 15.52 E. (Yugoslav coast.)	14.6.44
12.6.44		E-Boat	Direct hit by A/C in Korcula harbour.	13.6.44

* A.F.H.Q.Algiers 121847B June describes these vessels as small torpedo boats.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
12.6.44		U-Boat.	Sunk by U.S.S.CROATEN's group in 42.23 N. 39.56 W. (440 miles W.N.W. of Flores) 61 prisoners.	12.6.44
Reported 12.6.44		E-Boat	Set on fire - A/C of Coastal Command off Flushing and S. of Boulogne. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	12.6.44
13.6.44		Artillery Boat	Hit by bomb, aground alongside quay Isigny. Sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		U-Boat	SCOURGE considers damaged - 147° S. C.P. 14½ miles. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		3 E-Boats	Sunk off Boulogne by Coastal A/C. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		E-Boats	Set on fire or damaged off Boulogne by Coastal A/C. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		E/R Boats	2 probably destroyed, 2 seriously damaged, 7 slightly damaged, Beaufighter A/C in Gris Nez area. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44
13.6.44		3 mine-sweepers or trawlers	1 set on fire, 2 damaged - Beaufighter A/C in Gris Nez area. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44
13.6.44		3 mine-sweepers	Sunk by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany Coast. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44 15.6.44
13.6.44		Minesweeper	Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany coast. (Operation "Neptune".) Probably sunk.	14.6.44 15.6.44
13.6.44		2 mine-sweepers	Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany Coast. (Operation "Neptune".	14.6.44 15.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
~~13.6.44~~		~~2 mine-sweepers~~	~~Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany coast. (Op. "Neptune".)~~	~~14.6.44 15.6.44~~
13.6.44		U-Boat	Heavy explosion and thick column of black? smoke to 1000 ft. 16 minutes after depth charge attack by Wellington 34 miles S.W. of Brest. U/B was surfaced northbound. Posn. ?47.59 N. 05.28 W. ?damaged or sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	A.S.O.S. 1302 14.6.44
13.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Canso A/C T/162 in 62.45 N. 02.01 W. (120 miles N.N.W. of Muckle Flugga.) Survivors picked up.	14.6.44 20.6.44 A.S.O.S. 1301 A.S.O.S. 1302.
Night 13/ 14.6.44		Minesweeper	Claimed set on fire by DUFF off Cap la Hague. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1761
14.6.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by a Wellington A/C 15 miles S.W. of St. Valery. (Operation "Neptune".)	14.6.44
14.6.44		3 E-Boats	Claimed damaged by a Wellington A/C 15 miles S.W. of St. Valery. (Operation "Neptune".)	14.6.44
14.6.44		U-Boat	HIND engaged contact off Start Point - S.O. of E.G. considers sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	15.6.44
14.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Mosquito 70 miles N.W. of Bergen. 2 bodies seen in the water. Position 61. 06. N. 03.25 E.	15.6.44 A.S.O.S. 1302
Night 14/ 15.6.44		E-Boat	Air raid on Havre. Aground. (Op. "Neptune")	15.6.44
Night 14/ 15.6.44		E-Boat	Air raid on Havre. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune")	15.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 14/ 15.6.44		T.L.C.3	Air raid on Havre. Capsized. (Op. "Neptune".)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Probably hit by Hedgehog from DUCKWORTH, 23 miles S.S.E. of Portland Bill. (Operation "Neptune".)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.escort carrier SOLOMON's group in 25.10 S. 04.55 west (600 miles S. of St. Helena.)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked by SATYR in 68.01 N. 005.08 E. (170 miles W. of the Lofoten Is.) U/B appeared to break in half.	24.6.44 28.6.44
16.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Mosquito A/C in 61.01 N. 003.00 E. (90 miles S.W. of Stadtlandet, Norway.)	16.6.44
17.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Norwegian manned Catalina A/C D/333 in 63.06 N. 02.05 E. about 100 miles N.W. of Stadt-landet, Norway. 40 survivors and wrec-kage seen.	17.6.44 20.6.44
Reported 17.6.44		2 Q caiques 1 U/J boat.	Destroyed by UN-SWERVING in Potamo.	17.6.44
Night 17/ 18.6.44		Corvette	Silenced and set on fire aft by coastal forces in Piombino Channel.	19.6.44
18.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by FAME (E.G.14) in 49.03.02 N. 03. 13.06 W. (off Sept Isles.) 1 survivor recovered. (Op. "Neptune".)	18.6.44 20.6.44
19.6.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by air attack between Kalimno and Cape Daphni.	19.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 20/ 21.6.44		Corvette	2 torpedo hits by coastal forces between Leghorn and Spezia.	23.6.44
Night 20/ 21.6.44		K.T.ship	One hit as above.	23.6.44
21.6.44		U/J Boat	Destroyed by UNSPARING or UNSWERVING north of C.Malea, Greece.	22.6.44 28.6.44
21.6.44		250 ton A/S yacht	Sunk by UNIVERSAL off Riom I. S. France. a/	23.6.44
21.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 0230 by Wellington A/304 in 50.00 N. 02.50 W.	28.6.44
21.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Sunderland A/C L/228 and Halifax D/502 in 49.36 N. 8.28 W. Probably damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	21.6.44 28.6.44
22.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by U.S.Liberator M/103 in 49.13 N. 05.12 W. Oil & wreckage seen.	28.6.44
23.6.44		Escort trawler	Sunk by M.T.B.Unit G.O.2, 8 miles S. of La Corbiere, Channel Is. (Operation "Neptune".)	23.6.44
23.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Wellington and Liberator at 1614 25 miles S.W. of Jersey. Wreckage seen. (Op. "Neptune".)	24.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by Albacore A/C off Calais.	A.S.O.S. No. 1311
23.6.44		E-Boat	Destroyed by Albacore A/C off Dunkirk.	A.S.O.S. No. 1311
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Dunkirk.	A.S.O.S. No. 1311

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
23.6.44		2 patrol boats	Sunk by UNSWERVING in Aegean. No details.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	Probably sunk by Wellington A/C off The Hague.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boats	Sunk by Albacore A/C off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E/R Boats	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by Albacore A/C 5 miles N. of Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boat	Bombs from Swordfish A/C straddled off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		M-class minesweeper	Damaged by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	1 set on fire, 1 damaged by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Left sinking by Beaufighter A/C turning into Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	R.P. and cannon hits by Beaufighter A/C turning into Boulogne.	28.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 240034Z in 15.16 N. 39.55 W. (900 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) Oil and debris.	25.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack in same position at 240256Z.	25.6.44
~~24.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by A/C D/333 in 62.55 N. 00.00 E. (130 miles N. by E. of the Shetlands.)~~	~~26.6.44~~
~~24.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by HAIDA and ESKIMO in 48.50 N. (or 59 N.) 05.42 W. Survivors picked up. Op. "Neptune".~~	~~28.6.44~~

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
24.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by destroyer HAIDA in 48.59 N. 05.42 W. survivors picked up. (Op. "Neptune".)	24.6.44 28.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina P/162 in 62.55 N. 00.00, A/C shot down by U/B. Survivors of U/B seen but not rescued. Survivors of P/162 rescued.	28.6.44 28.6.44
Reported 24.6.44		E/R Boat	Sunk at eastern end of Channel by A/C. Operation "Neptune".	24.6.44
Reported 24.6.44		E/R Boat	Damaged at eastern end of Channel by A/C. Operation "Neptune".	24.6.44
Night 24/ 25.6.44		Torpedo boat	Driven ashore, total loss, on Murter Is. Adriatic.	26.6.44
25.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by frigate BICKERTON in 50.00 N. 03.00 W. (32 miles S. E. of Start Pt.) Survivors picked up.* Operation "Neptune"	25.6.44
~~25.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by Frigate BICKERTON (32 miles S. E. of Start Pt.) Survivors picked up. Operation "Neptune".~~	~~25.6.44~~
26.6.44		U-Boat	Considered by ships of 1st E.G. to be mortally hit in 50. 03 N. 02.59 E.* Operation "Neptune".	26.6.44
26.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked and believed sunk by BULLDOG in 54.34 N. 011.04 W. (30 miles W.N.W. of Erris Head, Ireland.)	26.6.44
26.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Liberator N/86 in 62.03 N. 01.45 E. (90 miles W. by S. of Stadt-landet, Norway). 15 survivors seen.	26.6.44 28.6.44

* Note: Wrecks of 2 U/Bs were fixed in 50.01 N. 02.50 W. and 50.03 N. 02.56.30 W. 1 is that sunk by BICKERTON and the other was sunk by attack on night 25/26 June (C. in C. Plymouth 282100B June 1944.)

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
16.1.44		U/Boat	Attacked and apparently damaged by BLIGH of E.G. C.5 about 300 miles N. of the Azores while escorting Convoy H.X. 274.	16.1.44 p.252
16.1.44		2 U/Boats	Reported sunk by A/C from U.S.Escort Carrier GUADALCANAL in 40.30 N. 37.20 W. (about 300 miles W. by N. of Flores.)	18.1.44 p.295
19.1.44		U/Boat	Attacked with Hedge-hog and apparently damaged by VIOLET of E.G.133 about 330 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear while escorting Convoy O.S. 65/K.M.S.39.	19.1.44 p.297 20.1.44 p.324
20.1.44		Destroyer or T.Boat	Claimed damaged by Albacore A/C off Berck-sur-mer after having passed through Straits of Dover.	21.1.44 p.328
20.1.44	SKAGGERAK	Minelayer	Reported (B.2) sunk by A/C off Egero	25.1.44 p.392
24.1.44		E/Boat	Set on fire by Coastal Forces south of Vada Rock.	24.1.44 p.381
26.1.44		?Minelayer	Damaged by A/C in Parsekia Bay, Paros, Aegean.	27.1.44 p.434 -5
28.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by Sunderland D/461 in 53.15 N. 15.52 W. (180 miles S.W. of Black Sod Bay)	2.2.44 p.35
29.1.44		M/class Mine-sweeper	Set on fire off Grave-lines by M.T.Bs 417 and 418.	30.1.44 p.483 -4
29.1.44		M.L.	Damaged by air attack in Corfu area.	1.2.44
30.1.44		U/Boat	Blown to surface by STORD about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B. Sunk.	30.1.44 p.478 1.2.44 p.4.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by OFFA and INCONSTANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	30.1.44 p.482 1.2.44 p.4

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly sunk by HARDY, about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44. p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Possibly damaged by HARDY about 60 miles South of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably sunk by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting Convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by VENUS about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
30.1.44		U/Boat	Probably damaged by SAVAGE and VIGILANT about 60 miles south of Bear Island while supporting convoy J.W.56B.	1.2.44 p.4 - 5
31.1.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE of E.G. 2 in about 50.14 N. 17.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Lands End.)	31.1.44 p.498 1.2.44 p.20 4.2.44 p.79 5.2.44 p.79
3.2.44		U/Boat	Oil and wreckage seen after attack by A/C (40 miles N.W. of Latakia) (no co-ordinates given.)	4.2.44 p.68
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Probably sunk by gun-fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, BRISSENDEN and WENSLEYDALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		M/Class mine-sweeper	Probably sunk fire from TANATSIDE, TALYBONT BRISSENDEN and WENSLEY-DALE on patrol off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79
5.2.44		Elbing-class destroyer	Damaged by gunfire from TANATSIDE off Ile de Bas.	5.2.44 p.79

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - (Continued)

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
6.2.44		Patrol Vessel	Engaged with gunfire and left on fire by M.T.Bs. 618 and 619 in Sognesjoen during a V.P. operation.	6.2.44 p.94
6.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by Liberator from Ascension in 10.40 S. 23.10 W. (540 miles S.W. of Ascension) U.S.Cruiser OMAHA picked up 14 survivors.	6.2.44 p.102 7.2.44 p.111 9.2.44 p.143
8.2.44		Escort Vessel	Believed sunk by ULTOR off S. coast of France.	17.2.44 p.286
8.2.44 (?0120Z/9)		U/Boat	Claimed sunk by WOODPECKER of E.G.2 in 49.04 N. 17.02 W. (about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear) while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38.	9.2.44 p.138 - 9 15.2.44 p.258
9.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by STARLING and WILD GOOSE about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38 Oil, wreckage, human remains.	9.2.44 p.138 - 9 15.2.44 p.258
9.2.44		U/Boat	Sunk by MAGPIE about 280 miles W. by S. of Cape Clear while supporting Convoy S.L.147/M.K.S.38. Oil, wreckage, human remains.	9.2.44 p.138-9 15.2.44 p.258
10.2.44		U/Boat	Attacked and claimed sunk by Swordfish A/C from FENCER in 53.47 N. 17.57 W. about 270' West of Slyne Head while supporting Convoy 223.	10.2.44 p.153-4 15.2.44 p.259
10.2.44		2 U/Bs.	Straddles with D/Cs. claimed by Liberator G/53 on 2 U/Bs. on surface in 49.53 N. 17. 20 W. About 12 yellow planks seen after attacks.	15.2.44 p.258
10.2.44		U/Boat	Promising attack by Wellington O/612 in 56.17 N. 13.22 W.	15.2.44 p.259

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
10.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by LOSSIE of E.G.10 in 52.40 N. 022.41 W. Under-water explosions heard and black objects broke surface.	21.2.44 p. 346
11.2.44		U-Boat	Attacked and claimed sunk by WOODPECKER and WILD GOOSE of E. G.2 on A/S Patrol in 50.00 N. 18.14 W. (about 500 miles west of Lands End.) Oil, wreckage, human remains.	11.2.44 p.172-3 15.2.44 p.258
11.2.44		U-Boat	Probably damaged by GERANIUM and SCARBOROUGH about 480 miles west of Ushant while escorting convoy O.S.67/K.M.S.41	11.2.44 p.173-4 17.2.44 p.282
11.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Wellington D/407 in 60.45 N. 12.50 W.	15.2.44 p.259
12.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Liberator G/200 in 61.10 N. 27.15 W.	15.2.44 p.259
14.2.44		U-Boat	Two hits with depth charges estimated by A/C of Eastern Air Command in 46.13 N. 44.52 W. (350 miles E. of C. Race.	14.2.44 p.235-6
15.2.44		1 F-Boat 1 E-Boat 1 Trawler	Claimed sunk by M.T. B.455 during attack on enemy convoy off Ijmuiden.	15.2.44 p.243-5
15.2.44		4 E-Boats 1 Trawler 1 Flak ship	Damaged by M.T.Bs. off Ijmuiden.	15.2.44 p.243-5
15.2.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk in 27. 40 N. 40.40 W. (900 miles S.W. of Azores) by A/C from CROATAN (U.S.escort carrier, C.T.G.21.13) Nationality of S/M not established.	17.2.44 p.290
16.2.44		S/M type	6 hits with R.P. by A/Cs in Zante Harbour.	17.2.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
18.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by SPEY of E.G.10 in 48.32 N. 023.36 W. (560 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.S.29. 45 survivors.	18.2.44 p.296-7 19.2.44 p.316 21.2.44 p.346 24.2.44 p.397-8 29.2.44 p.490
18.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by ROTHER of E.G.10 in 48.32 N. 023.36 W. on large air bubble.	21.2.44 p.346
18.2.44		U-Boat	Good straddle by Halifax P/58 in 47. 39 N. 15.30 W.	22.2.44 p.373
19.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by SPEY and LOSSIE of E.G.10 in 48.31 N. 22.41 W. (about 560 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. 19 survivors.	19.2.44 p.316-8 20.2.44 p.331 21.2.44 p.346 24.2.44 p.397-8 29.2.44 p.490
19.2.44	U.264	U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING of E.G.2 in 48.31 N. 22.05 W. (about 540 miles W.S.W. of Cape Clear) while supporting convoy O.N.224. Many prisoners taken.	19.2.44 p.316-8
19.2.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by FINDHORN of E.G.10 in 49.24 N. 023.32 W. Water-surface seen in flames.	21.2.44 p.346
Night 20/ 21.2.44		E-Boat	Sunk by patrol boats off Anzio.	21.2.44 p.353
Night 20/ 21.2.44		E-Boat	Probably driven ashore by patrol boats off Anzio.	21.2.44 p.353
22.2.44		Destroyer or T.B.	Hit by one torpedo by aircraft (15-20 miles N.W. of Candia Crete.)	23.2.44 p.359

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
22.2.44		?cruiser	Fortress A/C reports direct hit on stern of possible cruiser off Silba I. (approx. 44½ N. 14½ E. E. coast of Adriatic.)	26.2.44 p.445
23.2.44		E-Boat	Sunk by GARTH on patrol in 100° Smiths Knoll Bell Buoy 4 miles.	23.2.44 p.379-80
24.2.44	U.257	U-Boat	Sunk by WASKESIU with NENE in 47.19 N. 26.00 W. (940 miles west of St. Nazaire) while supporting convoy S.C. 153.	24.2.44 p.395-6 29.2.44 p.499
24.2.44	U.761	U-Boat	Sunk in 35.57 N. 05.44 W. (Straits of Gib.) by U.S.N. M.A.D.Catalinas 14 & 15 of V.P.63 assisted by ANTHONY & WISHART & U.S.N. Ventura S of U.B.127 & British Catalina Q of 202.	24.2.44 p.401 25.2.44 p.429 3.3.44 p.41 - 2 9.5.44 p.127
24.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed damaged by VIVIEN while escorting convoy F.S.71 about 25 miles E. of Gt. Yarmouth.	25.2.44 p.415-6
24.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed damaged by EGLINTON off Gt. Yarmouth during attack on convoy F.S. 71.	25.2.44 p.415-6
25.2.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina A/C in 70.26 N. 012.40 E. (about 400 miles W. by S. of the N.Cape) while supporting convoy J.W.57.	25.2.44 p.417-8 29.2.44 p.499 8.5.44
25.2.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by M.T.B. patrol about 15 miles N.W. by N. of Ijmuiden.	25.2.44 p.415-6
26.2.44	U.91	U-Boat	Sunk by GORE and AFFLECK of E.G.1 in 49.45 N. 026.20 W. (660 miles W. by S. of C.Clear) on A/S patrol. 16 survivors.	26.2.44 p.434-5 29.2.44 p.499

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
27.2.44		Escort trawler	Attacked and set on fire by M.T.Bs. 415 and 431 off St. Helier (Jersey). An explosion seen later.	27.2.44 p.455
29.2.44		1 Escort vessel, 2 E-Boats	Estimated sunk by LE MALIN and LE TERRIBLE in attack on convoy in 44.20 N. 14.30 E. (30 miles N.W. of Zara North Adriatic.)	29.2.44 p.495 29.2.44 p.495
29.2.44		2 M.Ls.	One reported destroyed and one damaged by Allied A/Cs off coast of Yugoslavia.	1.3.44 p.11
29.2.44		E-Boat	Claimed destroyed by Allied A/C between Corfu and mainland.	1.3.44 p.12
1.3.44		U-Boat	Attacked by E.G.1 and sunk by AFFLECK in 45.46 N. 023.10 W. (about 870 miles W. of Rochefort) 1 P.O.W. taken.	1.3.44 p.4 - 5 8.3.44 p.134 10.3.44 p.162
1.3.44		3 U-Boats	Two or possibly 3 U-Boats believed sunk by T.G.21.16 (BLOCK ISLAND and destroyers) in 48. 50 N. 26.00 W. (about 840 miles W. by S. of Lands End.)	1.3.44 p.4 - 5
1.3.44		U-Boat	Believed sunk by T.G.21.16 (BLOCK ISLAND and destroyers) in 48.30 N. 25.30 W. (about 840 miles W. of Ushant.)	2.3.44 p.20 - 21
3.3.44		2 E-Boats	Probably sunk by Albacore A/C off Cap de la Hague while returning from Lyme Bay to Cherbourg.	3.3.44 p.37
3.3.44		1 E-Boat	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Cap de la Hague.	3.3.44 p.37
3.3.44		2 E-Boats	Reported damaged by Russians in Kiik Atlama (Black Sea).	12.3.44 p.201

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
4.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER & ONSLAUGHT in 75.05 N. 26.40 E. (about 180 miles S.E. of Bear Island) while escorting convoy R.A.57. 25 survivors.	4.3.44 p.55 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 16.3.44 p.263.
5.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 72.10 N. 13.45 E. (about 180 miles S. S.W. of Bear Island) while escorting convoy R.A.57. Survivors seen in water.	5.3.44 p.68 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.263
5.3.44		Destroyer	Reported sunk off Lister (Norway) by aerial torpedo.	12.4.44
5.3.44		F-Boat	Hit by A/Cs and left sinking in Peljesac Channel, Yugoslavia.	6.3.44 p.95
6.3.44	U.744	U-Boat	Sunk by Escort Group C.2 (S.O.ICARUS) in 52.01 N. 022.37 W. (about 450 miles W. of Valentia) while supporting convoy H.X.280.	6.3.44 p.85-6 10.3.44 p.162
6.3.44		Escort trawler	Hit by torpedoes (3) from M.T.Bs. 241, 225 and 234 on patrol about 8 miles S.W. of Ijmuiden and not seen again.	6.3.44 p.87
6.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Swordfish A/C from CHASER in 70.04 N. 05.48 E. (about 280 miles E. by S. of Jan Mayen) while supporting convoy R.A.57. 3 survivors picked up.	7.3.44 p.105 8.3.44 p.122 9.3.44 p.140 16.3.44 p.265
6.3.44		Gun coaster	Probably sunk by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 693 and 695 during attack on enemy convoy off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6
6.3.44		Escort trawler	Damaged by M.T.Bs. of 53rd M.T.B.Flot. off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
6.3.44		R-Boat	Damaged by M.T.Bs. of 55rd M.T.B.Flot. off Ijmuiden.	7.3.44 p.105-6
8.3.44		Escort vessel	Set on fire after several explosions by attack by A/C in 350° Candia 5 miles.	8.3.44 p.129
Night 8/ 9.3.44		250/300 ft. destroyer	Set on fire and violent explosions as result of attack with R.P. by Beaufighter in Rhodes, Cos, Scarpanto area.	10.3.44 p.165
10.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Sunderland A/C in 58.35 N. 20.19 W. (about 360 miles W. by N. of Valentia.) Survivors in dinghies.	10.3.44 p.160
10.3.44		Flak trawler	Hit by guns and left on fire by M.T.Bs. of 55th M.T.B.Flot. off Terschelling.	10.3.44 p.161-2
10.3.44	Believed U.345	U-Boat	Sunk by FORESTER, ST. LAURENT and SWANSEA in 48.47 N. 021.02 W. (about 580 miles W. by S. of Lands End.) while escorting convoy S.C.154. 45 prisoners taken.	10.3.44 p.154 11.3.44 p.176
10.3.44	U.450	U-Boat	Sunk by EXMOOR, URCHIN, BRECON and BLENCATHRA in 40.53 N. 12.28 E. (N.W. of Ponza) during Op. "Shingle".	10.3.44 p.165
10.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by H.M.T.MULL in 38.07 N. 09.41 E. (between Sardinia and Tunisia) whilst escorting a small convoy.	26.3.44 p.452 27.3.44 p.469-70
11.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by 3 Catalinas in 41.28 S. 17.40 E. (390 miles S. of Capetown). Wreckage seen. Considered by C. in C. S.A. probably sunk. (Op. "Wicketkeeper".)	11.3.44 p.182 12.3.44 p.198 14.3.44 p.230

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
11.3.44		1 destroyer several submarines	Reported hit by air attack at Toulon.	12.3.44 p.174.
11.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack in Kiik Atlama, Black Sea.	19.3.44 p.329 29.3.44
11.3.44		4 E-Boats	Damaged by Russian air attack in Kiik Atlama, Black Sea.	19.3.44 p.329
13.3.44	U.575	U-Boat	Sunk by PRINCE RUPERT, escorting convoy O.K.227, with U.S.Destroyers HOBSON and HAVER-FIELD and A/C from BOGUE of T.G.21.11, 1100 miles due W. of La Rochelle (46. 10 (or 18') N. 027. 34 W.) Many sur-vivors rescued.	13.3.44 p.209-11 15.5.44
13.3.44		E-Boat	Set on fire in Feodosia by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
14.3.44		3 E-Boats	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 698, 724 and 705 off Dunkirk.	15.3.44 p.247
15.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING with WILD GOOSE & MAGPIE of E.G.2 in 55.46 N. 024.35 W. (about 520 miles W. of Slyne Head.)	15.3.44 p.244-5
15.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk by gunfire from M.T.B.418 off Cap Gris Nez.	16.3.44 p.264-5
15.3.44		Trawler	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.B.418 off Cap Gris Nez.	16.3.44 p.264-5
16.3.44		E-Boat	One E-Boat sunk (claimed) by BRIS-SENDEN & MELBREAK about 20 miles S.W. of Wolf Rock.	16.3.44 p.261-2

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
16.3.44		E-Boats	Two E/Bs hit by 4 inch shell and several damaged by close-range weapons from BRISSENDEN and MEL-BREAK about 20' S.W. of Wolf Rock.	16.3.44 p.261-2
16.3.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk by U.S. N.M.A.D.Catalinas 1,7 & 8 of V.P.63, and AFFLECK & VANOC in Straits of Gib. in 220° Europa 14.4 miles.	16.3.44 p.268 5.6.44
16.3.44		F-Boat R-Boat	Sunk in Dnieper Estuary by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
16.3.44		2 M.Ls.	Damaged by shore battery in Dnieper Estuary.	19.3.44 p.328 29.3.44
17.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.CORRY, BRONSTEIN and A/C from BLOCK ISLAND (T.G.21.16) in 16. 42 N. 30.28 W. (285 miles W. of St. Antonio, C.Verde Is.)	17.3.44 p.295
17.3.44		U-Boat	Probably severely damaged by SLAZAK, aircraft, etc. after attacking convoy S.N.F.17, in 37.08 N. 05.27 E.	17.3.44 p.279 4.5.44
17.3.44		4 E-Boats	Set on fire in Feodosia by air attack.	19.3.44 p.329
17.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk at Ochakov by Russian air attack.	28.3.44 p.486
17.3.44		2 M.Ls. 4 E-Boats	Damaged as above.	28.3.44 p.486 2.4.44. p.28
18.3.44		Gunboat	Left beached and on fire after attack by Spitfires in mouth of River Drin, Albania.	19.3.44 p.297
19.3.44		E-Boat	Sunk by P.C.545 N. of Anzio (Op. "Shingle".)	19.3.44 p.328

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
13.3.44	U.301	U-Boat	Sunk by BLOCK ISLAND's group in 13.03 N. 33.38 W. (440 miles W.S.W. of C.Verde Is.)	20.3.44 p.350
19.3.44		U-Boat	Second U-Boat probably sunk by BLOCK ISLAND's Group in 13.08 N. 33.42 W.	21.3.44 p.365
19.3.44		R-Boat	Sunk off Cape Tarkhan by Russian air attack.	23.3.44 p.486
19.3.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged off Cape Tarkhan by Russian air attack.	23.3.44 p.486
21.3.44		U-Boat	Probably severely damaged by U.S.S. SPENCER in 35.59 N. 05.24 W. (Straits of Gibraltar.)	4.5.44
23.3.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by BLOCK ISLAND's Group in 13.15 N. 33.40 W. (440 miles W.S.W. of C.Verde Is.)	24.3.44 p.414
24.3.44		E/R Boat	Probably sunk by M.T.Bs. 699 and 698 off Gravelines.	24.3.44 p.408-9
24.3.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by M. T.Bs. 699 and 698 off Gravelines.	24.3.44 p.408-9
24.3.44		4E-Boats	Attacked by Spitfires off Padman I. (Yugoslavia) 1 exploded, 2 caught fire, 1 left sinking.	25.3.44 p.454
24.3.44	SCHWABENLAND	Catapult ship	Probably torpedoed by TERRAPIN off Lister on 24th March and photographed beached at Abelnes (about 50 miles S.E. of Stavanger) on 31st March.	1.4.44 p.1 3.4.44 p.39 7.4.44 p.98
26.3.44		E-Boat	Damaged 5 miles E. of Smiths Knoll Buoy by MACKAY guarding flank of convoy F.S.1	26.3.44 p.444-5

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
29.3.44		R-Boats	Several R-Boats damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs.611, 614 602, 613, 608 and 615 during engagement off Dieppe.	29.3.44 p. 497-8
29.3.44		U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING of E.G.2 about 180 miles N.E. by N. of the Faroes while supporting Convoy J.W.58.	31.3.44 p. 492 15.4.44 p. 241 17.4.44 p. 275
30.3.44	U. 223	U-Boat	Sunk by 14th D.F. and 2 U.S. Destroyers in 38.54 N. 14.18 E. (60 miles N.E. of Palermo)	30.3.44 p. 520
31.3.44		R-Boat	Set on fire by German escorts during attack on Convoy by M.T.Bs. off St. Quentin.	31.3.44 p. 532
Night 1/ 2.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by KEPPEL while escorting Convoy J.W. 58.	2.4.44 p. 18 15.4.44 p. 241
Night 2/ 3.4.44		I Boat	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. off Jeka, Hvar Island Adriatic.	5.4.44 p. 72
3.4.44	TIRPITZ	Battleship	Damaged in Alten Fiord by bombs from A/C of Fleet Air Arm during Operation "Tungsten".	3.4.44 p. 38 4.4.44 p. 51-2 5.4.44 p. 68 6.4.44 p. 81-2 18.4.44 p. 294 1.6.44
3.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by A/C from Escort Carrier TRACKER in 73° 44' N. 027° 12' E. (about 150 miles N. by E. of North Cape) while supporting Convoy J.W. 58.	4.4.44 p. 53 5.4.44 p. 67 15.4.44 p. 241
3.4.44		3 M.Ls.	Sunk by Russian air attacks in Feodosia area.	7.4.44 p. 103
3.4.44		2 M.Ls.	Damaged as above.	7.4.44 p. 103

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 5/ 6.4.44		E-Boat	Sunk by M.T.Bs. and P.Ts. from Bastia, no position given.	7.4.44 p. 104
Night 5/ 6.4.44		Flak ship	Damaged by M.T.Bs. and P.Ts. from Bastia, no position given.	7.4.44 p. 104
Night 5/ 6.4.44		I.R Boat	Damaged by Russian E-Boats off Odessa.	11.4.44 p. 169
6.4.44		U-Boat	Claimed sunk by SWALE of E.G. B.7 in 45° 05' N. 035° 11' W. (about 360 miles N.W. by N. of Flores, Azores) while escorting Convoy S.C.156.	6.4.44 p. 82-3
6.4.44		Gun Coaster	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 445, 440 and 438 during attack on enemy convoy off Den Helder.	6.4.44 p. 84
6.4.44		2 F-Boats	One hit by bomb, one near missed off Populonia, Italy.	7.4.44
6.4.44		F-Boat	Hit with 250 lb. bomb off Populonia (W. Coast of Italy)	9.4.44
7.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by T.G. 21.15 (CROATEN and 5 Drs. in 40.18 N. 62.06 W. (about 240 miles S. of Halifax N.S.) (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa gives position 40. 33 N. 62.22 W.)	8.4.44 p. 123 12.4.44 p. 197
8.4.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged in Kiik Atlama (Black Sea) by Russian aircraft.	11.4.44 p. 169
9.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.GUADAL-CANAL's group in 35. N. 19 W. (95 miles N. of Madeira).	10.4.44 p. 159
9.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by vessels and A/Cs. of GUADAL-CANAL's Group in 35 N. 19 W. (95 miles N. of Madeira). 41 prisoners taken.	10.4.44 p. 143
9.4.44		I.R Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack off Sulina.	11.4.44 p. 169

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
10.4.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by M.T.Bs. of 54th Flotilla and left burning fiercely during attack on enemy convoy off the Texel.	11.4.44 p. 164-5
10.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S. GUADALCANAL's Group in 33.31 N. 18.43 W. (about 95 miles N. of Madeira).	11.4.44 p. 175.
10.4.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S. Naval Liberator in 15.37 S. 17.00 W. (470 miles S.S.W. of Ascension Island)	11.4.44 p. 167
11.4.44		E/R Boat	Damaged by gunfire from German Escort Vessels during attack by M.T.Bs. of 54th Flotilla on an enemy convoy off the Texel.	11.4.44 p. 164-5
11.4.44		E-Boat 4 M.Ls.	Sunk by Russian aircraft at Feodosia.	16.4.44 p. 265
11.4.44		E-Boat	Damaged as above.	16.4.44 p. 265
Night 11/12.4.44		I Boat	Sunk in Adriatic by M.G.Bs.	14.4.44 p. 230
12.4.44		M.L.	Sunk by Soviet E-Boat off CapeTarkhan, Black Sea.	16.4.44 p. 265
12.4.44		M.L.	Damaged as above.	16.4.44 p. 265
13.4.44		Destroyer	Direct hit by Russian aircraft off Sevastopol.	16.4.44 p. 265
14.4.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft off south Crimea coast.	16.4.44 p. 265.
14.4.44	U. 448	U-Boat	Sunk after creeping attack by SWANSEA of E.G.9 and PELICAN of E.G.7 in 46° 32' N. 19° 37' W. (about 720 miles West of La Rochelle). C.O., 4 Officers and 37 ratings rescued.	14.4.44 p. 222-3 15.4.44 p. 241

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
16.4.44	U. 550	U-Boat	Shelled, rammed and sunk by U.S.S.GANDY, JOYCE and PETERSON in approx. 40.07 N. 69.24 W.	16.4.44 p. 269 2.5.44 p. 26
17.4.44		U-Boat	Attacked on surface by A/C S/162 in 60° 23' N. 29° 20' W. (about 250 miles S.W. of Reykjavik) and apparently sunk. Violent explosion and wreckage seen.	17.4.44 p. 276-7 18.4.44 p. 29[illegible]
18.4.44		U-Boat	Attacked while on surface& apparently abandoned by A/C of 172 Sqdn. in 47° 08' N. 06° 50' W. (about 180 miles West of St. Nazaire) and seen by A/C at 180618B to have foundered.	18.4.44 p. 289
18.4.44		Minesweeper	Sunk by Russian air attack westward of Crimea.	21.4.44 p. 355
18.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian air attack westward of Crimea.	28.4.44 p. 477
19.4.44		U-Boat	Torpedoed by Norwegian S/M ULA in 59° 08' N. 05° 23' E. (close off Stavanger). Two explosions and breaking-up noises heard.	24.4.44 p. 398 28.4.44 p. 471
20.4.44		2 E-Boats	1 probably sunk, 1 believed damaged 15 miles W. of Anzio by U.S.S. EBERLE.	20.4.44 p. 337
22.4.44 23.4.44 24.4.44		E-Boat 3 R-Boat Gunboat Escort Vessel	All sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
23 and 24.4.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 484
Night 24/25.4.44		Destroyer	Apparently damaged on Allied minefield off Capraia (30 miles S. of Leghorn) and subsequently sunk by Allied coastal forces and aircraft.	26.4.44 p. 441

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 24/ 25.4.44		Destroyer	Apparently damaged on Allied minefield off Capraia when in company with previous one.	26.4.44 p. 441
25.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
26.4.44		Destroyer	Sunk by HAIDA, ATHABASKAN, ASHANTI and HURON 7 miles West of Les Heaux (Brittany) during Operation "Tunnel".	26.4.44 p. 432-3
26.4.44		Escort Vessel.	Damaged by A/C from Forces 7 and 8 during attack on Convoy off Bodo (Norway).	26.4.44 p. 433-4
26.4.44	S. 147	E-Boat	Sunk in Channel by LA COMBATTANTE about 30 miles N.E. by E. of Cap Barfleur.	27.4.44 p. 451 28.4.44 p. 469-70
26.4.44		U-Boat	Believed sunk by CROATEN's group in 17.52 N. 38.04 W. (720 miles W. by N. of Cape Verde Is.)	27.4.44 p. 454
26.4.44.		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian aircraft or E-Boats on Crimea route.	29.4.44 p. 495
27.4.44		Destroyer	Bombed and left on fire by A/C TLR/71 about 100 miles W. of St. Nazaire.	27.4.44 p. 448-9
27.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Russian A/C in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
27.4.44		R-Boat	Sunk by Soviet E-Boat in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
27.4.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by Soviet E-Boats in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
29.4.44		ELBING class destroyer	Set on fire and run ashore 7 miles E. by N. of Ile de Vierge (Brittany) during action with HAIDA & ATHABASKAN. Torpedoed ashore by M.T.B.673 on 7th May and considered a total loss.	29.4.44 p. 487-9 7.5.44 p. 96-7

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
30.4.44		R-Boat, M.L.	Sunk by Russian A/C in Black Sea.	3.5.44 p. 37
Night 1/ 2.5.44		3 I-Boats	Sunk off Brac I., Adriatic, by coastal forces.	3.5.44 p. 39
2.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by A/C from FENCER about 180 miles S.E. of Jan Mayen Island while escorting Convoy R.A. 59.	D.O.R. 1723
3.5.44		U-Boat	Damaged by A/C from Escort Carrier (ACTIVITY or FENCER) escorting Convoy R.A. 59. No position given.	3.5.44 p. 32
3.5.44	?U. 852	U-Boat	Scuttled after being hunted and damaged by aircraft off Ras Hafun; wreck grounded in 09.35 N. 50.48 E. (south of C. Guardafui).	3.5.44 p. 40 4.5.44 p. 59 23.5.44
4.5.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by Beau-fighter A/C 10 miles N.E. of Cherbourg.	A.S.O.S. 1261
4.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Wellington A/C M/407 in 46.04 N. 09.20 W. (Bay of Biscay). 9 bodies and 3 survivors seen.	9.5.44 p. 135
4.5.44	U.371	U-Boat	Sunk by BLANKNEY and U.S. Dr. SUSTAIN in 36.50 N. 05.34 E. (off Bougie). 49 survivors.	4.5.44 p. 58 1.6.44
6.5.44	U. 66	U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.BUCKLEY of Task Group 21.11 in about 17 N. 32 W. (520 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) Survivors picked up.	6.5.44 p. 87-8 7.5.44 p.99-100
6.5.44	U.473	U-Boat	Sunk by STARLING, WILD GOOSE and WREN in 49° 29' N. 021° 22' W. (about 630 miles W. by S.Lands End) after a contact hunt of 15 hours. 30 prisoners taken.	6.5.44 p. 81-2 8.5.44 p. 110 11.5.44 p. 148

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
6.5.44	U.765	U-Boat	Sunk after attack by KEATS, BICKERTON and BLIGH of E.G.5 by A/C from VINDEX in 52° 30' N. 028° 28' W. (about 700 miles W. by S. of Valentia). C.O. and survivors rescued.	6.5.44 p. 82 7.5.44 p. 96 11.5.44
6.5.44		Escort Vessel	Hit by bomb from A/C off Christiansund during Operation "Croquet".	6.5.44 p. 84
Night 6/ 7.5.44		Large destroyer type vessel	Straddled by 8 R.Ps. by A/C, probably hit, left enveloped in smoke. Between Patmos and Lepsos (Aegean).	8.5.44 p. 115
8.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked and believed possibly sunk by E.G.5 (S.O. in BICKERTON) in 54° 05' N. 029° 10' W. (about 700 miles W. of Erris Head).	8.5.44 p. 110 9.5.44 p. 123
Night 10/ 11.5.44		R-Boat	Damaged by coastal forces off Vada Rocks whilst escorting a merchant ship.	12.5.44 p. 167
11.5.44		Armed Trawler	Hit by torpedo from M.T.B.467 in action off Schouwen (Dutch coast) and seen to break in half with both ends burning.	11.5.44 p. 149
11.5.44		Two Armed Trawlers	One trawler set well on fire and another damaged by gunfire from M.T.B. Patrol off Schouwen (Dutch coast).	11.5.44 p. 149
12.5.44		Armed Trawler	Hit by gunfire and left on fire by M.T.Bs.450, 453, 454 about 2 miles N.W. by N. of the Western Entrance of Cherbourg.	12.5.44 p. 158
13.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by LA COMBATTANTE about 18 miles S. by E. of Selsey Bill.	13.5.44 p. 174-5

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued

Date	Name	Type of Vessel.	Details	Diary Ref.
13.5.44		E-Boat	Damaged by gunfire from LA COMBATTANTE about 18 miles S. by E. of Selsey Bill.	13.5.44 p. 174-5
13.5.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by U.S.S. ROBINSON of T.G. 22.2 in 18.33 S. 10.20 W. (St. Helena area).	16.5.44 p. 222-3
Night 13/ 14.5.44		E-Boat	One or probably two sunk by patrols off Anzio.	16.5.44 p. 225
Night 13/ 14.5.44.		I Boat	Sunk by M.Ls. south of Peljesac Peninsula, Adriatic.	16.5.44 p. 225
14.5.44		Two Armed Trawlers	Damaged by fighter A/C from STRIKER or EMPEROR near Stadlandet during Operation "Potluck".	15.5.44 p. 205-6
14.5.44		Minesweeper	Left listing after attack by Beaufighter A/C off the Dutch Coast. No position given.	15.5.44 p. 207
15.5.44		U-Boat	Probably sunk in 36. 00 N. 05.38 W. (Straits of Gibraltar) by M.A.D Catalinas P.12/63 and P.1/63, BLACKFLY and KILMARNOCK.	15.5.44 p. 209 16.5.44 p. 222 17.5.44 p. 237 23.6.44 27.6.44
17.5.44	U.616	U-Boat	Sunk by aircraft and U.S. destroyers in 37.47 N. 00.16 E. (90 miles N.N.W. of Tenes).	17.5.44 p. 239 1.6.44
17.5.44		E-Boat	Hit by gunfire from QUORN during action off Hearty Knoll and flash of explosion seen later.	17.5.44 p. 234
17.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked and apparently damaged by Catalina A/C about 90 miles W.N.W. of Stadlandet.	17.5.44 p. 236
18.5.44		E-Boat	Hit by 4-inch shell from TANATSIDE about 40 miles S.W. of Portland Bill and claimed probably sunk.	18.5.44 p. 248-9
18.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina A/C S/210 in 63° 36' N. 001° 42' E. (about 130 miles N.W. of Stadlandet).	18.5.44 p. 254 24.5.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
18.5.44		E-Boat	2 hits by Spitfire in Marina di Pisa.	19.5.44
Night 18/ 19.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by coastal forces off Peljesac Peninsula, Yugo-slavia.	21.5.44 p.304
19.5.44	U.960	U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.des-troyers and a Ventura A/C in 37.35 N. 01. 29 E. (65 miles N. of Tenez.)	19.5.44 p.274-5 1.6.44
19.5.44		Destroyer	Claimed damaged by Beaufighter A/C 7 miles N.E.of Ushant.	A.S.O.S. 1276
19.5.44		Minesweeper	Attacked left in flames by Beau-fighter A/C 7 miles N.E. of Ushant.	A.S.O.S. 1276
19/20.5.44		E-Boat	Apparently sunk by A/C at ?Sarandi (Gulf of Corinth.)	21.5.44 p.304
19/20.5.44		E-Boat	Sunk by A/C in Loviste Bay (?Neretva Channel, Adriatic.)	21.5.44 p.304
Night 19/ 20.5.44		E or R Boat	Destroyed by des-troyers off Albanian coast.	22.5.44
20.5.44		E-Boat	Apparently damaged by gunfire from KITTIWAKE off No. 54A Buoy (Harwich area.)	20.5.44 p.281-2
20.5.44		2 E-Boats	Claimed set on fire off Ostend by Sword-fish A/C from Man-ston.	20.5.44 p.281-2
20.5.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by Albacore A/C while returning from Start Pt. area.	20.5.44 p.283
20.5.44		3 E-Boats	Claimed damaged by Albacore A/C while returning from Start Point area.	20.5.44 p.283
20.5.44		Trawler	Torpedoed and sunk by French M.T.B.90 about 11 miles W. by S. of La Corbiere (Jersey)	20.5.44 p.283

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
21.5.44	U.453	U-Boat	Sunk by TENACIOUS, LIDDESDALE, TERMAGANT and A/C in 38.13 N. 16.36 E. (off Punta Stilo S.E. coast of Italy.)	21.5.44 p.304-5 1.6.44
22.5.44		Escort vessel	Hit by 1 or 2 torpedoes from UNIVERSAL whilst beached off Ciotat (between Marseilles and Toulon); considered destroyed.	27.5.44
23.5.44		Armed schooner or motor boat	Sunk by Hurricanes on Dalmatian coast.	24.5.44
23.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Wellington E/407 in 49. 16 N. 03.38 W. (58 miles S. of Start Point) and contact lost at once.	30.5.44
Night 23/ 24.5.44		Corvette	Sunk by P.T.boats off Vada Rocks, W. coast of Italy.	25.5.44
Night 23/ 24.5.44		Corvette	Damaged by P.T.boats off Vada Rocks, W. coast of Italy.	25.5.44
24.5.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Sunderland A/C in 62.27 N. 03. 04 E. 60 miles W. N.W. of Stadtlandet (Norway). Bodies and wreckage seen.	24.5.44 p.351 30.5.44 1.6.44
24.5.44		U-Boat	Hit and believed sunk by /C V/120 in about 65.05 N. 004. 49 E. (150 miles W. of Vigen Island, Norway.)	24.5.44 p.351
24.5.44		M-class minesweeper	Claimed sunk by torpedo from M.T.B.208 in action about 40 miles E.S.E. of Cap Barfleur.	24.5.44 p.349
24.5.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by gunfire from M.T.Bs. 611, 602 and 614 in action 30 miles N. N.E. of Cap Barfleur.	24.5.44 p.349

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
25.5.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Liberator S/59 in 65.05 N. 07.28 E. (80 miles W. of Vigen Is. Norway) and last seen circling.	30.5.44
27.5.44		U-Boat	Straddled by Liberator S/59 in 62.37 N. 00.57 E. (130 miles W. of Aalesund, Norway.)	30.5.44
Night 29/30.5.44		2 I-Boats	Estimated damaged by coastal forces S. of Peljesac Peninsula.	6.6.44
31.5.44		Small minesweeper	Sunk by ULTOR off Cape Camarat.	1.6.44
1.6.44		4 Flak ships	Hit by fighter A/C during attack on convoy off Kvamme Island, Norway (62.12 N.) in Op. "Lombard".	2.6.44
1.6.44		1 destroyer 1 U/J Boat	Damaged by air attack N. of Candia whilst escorting a convoy from Piraeus.	2.6.44
1.6.44		1 destroyer	Damaged as above: reached Heraklion and sank in harbour, either from damage 1st June or from air attack on Heraklion 2nd June.	2.6.44 3.6.44 4.6.44
1.6.44		Minesweeper	Reported (B.3) sunk by A/C of F.A.A. off Kvamme Island, near Stadtlandet, Norway, during Op. "Lombard".	D.O.R. 1752
2.6.44		Suspected minelayer	Sunk by ULTOR off Port Vendres.	2.6.44
2.6.44		Minesweeper	Damaged by cannon from Mosquito A/C 7 miles S.W. of Lorient.	A.S.O.S. 1290
3.6.44		U-Boat	Straddled with depth charges by Canso A/C T/162 in 65.59 N. 01. 37 E. (130 miles N.W. of Stadtlandet (Norway)). 5 survivors seen in water.	3.6.44 D.O.R. 1751

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
3.6.44		2 E-Boats	Sunk in air attacks on 2 convoys in Leghorn - Piombino area.	4.6.44
3.6.44		1 E-Boat	Severely damaged in air attacks on 2 convoys in Leghorn - Piombino area.	4.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Direct hits by Wellington A/C in Med. (?Adriatic.)	5.6.44
4.6.44		E-Boat	Destroyed by R.P. Hurricanes off W. coast of Italy.	5.6.44
4.6.44		R-Boat	Damaged as above.	5.6.44
Reported 5.6.44	U.505	S/M	Captured (apparently off Rio del Oro. No details known.)	5.6.44
5 or 6. 6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by A/C off Cotrone.	7.6.44
7.6.44		U-Boat	Straddled by Sunderland S/201 at 0249 in 45.13 N. 08.30 W.	20.6.44
Night 7/ 8.6.44		3 U-Boats	Probably Sunk. Attacked by A/C Coastal Command. 2 claimed destroyed & 2 probably destroyed. These include attack at 2358 by Sunderland R/228 in 45.15 N. 04. 10 W. and at 0242/8 by Liberator G/224 in 48.10 N. 05.51 W. when survivors were seen in dinghies after attack. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 20.6.44
8.6.44		U-Boat	Damaged in attack by SKERNA in 49.00 N. 5.30 W. Hit claimed with hedgehog. Oil and bubbles. (Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
8.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by OBEDIENT 177° Beachy Head 37 miles.	8.6.44
8.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed sunk.	8.6.44 10.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
8.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 10.6.44
8.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged. Attacked by Typhoon A/C (137 Sqdn.) Claimed damaged and beached. (Op. "Neptune".)	8.6.44 10.6.44
8.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk at 0215 by Liberator G/224 in 48.27 N. 05.47 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44 28.6.44
9.6.44		Destroyer	Sunk by H.M.destroyer (D.10) Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N.Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
9.6.44		Destroyer	Sunk. Beached on fire on Ile de Bas. Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N. Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44 10.6.44
9.6.44		2 destroyers	Damaged. Approx. 49° N. 4° to 4° 30' W. off N. Breton coast. Op. "Neptune".	8.6.44
9.6.44		800 ton U/J Boat*	Probably sunk by UNTIRING off Cape Sicie (S.France.)	10.6.44
9.6.44		U/J Boat (corvette)	Hit with gunfire & torpedo off C. Taillat (S.France) believed sunk by CASABIANCA.	17.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		Escort vessel	Damaged by A/C cannon fire off Seriphos I. Aegean.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		R-Boat	Blown up by coastal forces in Milet Channel, Adriatic.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		I-Boat	Damaged as above.	11.6.44
Night 9/ 10.6.44		E-Boat	Probably sunk. Flank of Assault Approach Channel. Op. "Neptune".	10.6.44

* A.F.H.Q.Algiers 121847B June describes these vessels as small torpedo boats.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
10.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 2201 by E.G.3 in 49.49 N. 03.19 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44
10.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk. Severely damaged by Mosquito TSW/248 fighter in 48.43 N. 05. 08 W. (3 miles off Ushant) and later sunk by Liberator K/206. Survivors and wreckage seen in water. (Op. "Neptune")	10.6.44 11.6.44 20.6.44
10.6.44		800 ton U/J Boat*	Sunk by UNTIRING off Ciotat, S. France.	10.6.44
Night 10/ 11.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by DUFF off Cape Barfleur. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1759 11.6.44
Night 10/ 11.6.44		E-Boats	1 set on fire, others damaged - off Cape Barfleur. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1759 11.6.44
11.6.44		U-Boat	Damaged by RIOU in 49.59 N. 05.32 W. (Op. "Neptune".)	11.6.44
11.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Canso B/162 A/C 200 miles W. of Christiansund in 63. 07 N. 00.26 E. 35 survivors in water.	11.6.44
Reported 11.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by HIND in 50.11 N. 03.42 W. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	20.6.44
Night 11/ 12.6.44		E-Boat	Hit by 4" shell from MELBREAK off Cap d'Antifer. Probably sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1761
Night 11/ 12.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by BLACKMOOR & EGGESFORD in 43. 31 N. 15.52 E. (Yugoslav coast.)	14.6.44
12.6.44		E-Boat	Direct hit by A/C in Korcula harbour.	13.6.44

* A.F.H.Q.Algiers 121847B June describes these vessels as small torpedo boats.

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
12.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.S.CROATEN's group in 42.23 N. 39. 56 W. (440 miles W.N. W. of Flores) 61 prisoners.	12.6.44
Reported 12.6.44		E-Boat	Set on fire - A/C of Coastal Command off Flushing and S. of Boulogne. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	12.6.44
13.6.44		Artillery Boat	Hit by bomb, aground alongside quay Isigny. Sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		U-Boat	SCOURGE considers damaged - 147° S. C.P. 14½ miles. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		3 E-Boats	Sunk off Boulogne by Coastal A/C. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		E-Boats	Set on fire or damaged off Boulogne by Coastal A/C. (Op. "Neptune".)	13.6.44
13.6.44		E/R Boats	2 probably destroyed, 2 seriously damaged, 7 slightly damaged, Beaufighter A/C in Gris Nez area. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44
13.6.44		3 mine-sweepers or trawlers	1 set on fire, 2 damaged - Beaufighter A/C in Gris Nez area. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44
13.6.44		3 mine-sweepers	Sunk by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany Coast. (Op. "Neptune".)	14.6.44 15.6.44
13.6.44		Minesweeper	Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany coast. (Operation "Neptune".) Probably sunk.	14.6.44 15.6.44
13.6.44		2 mine-sweepers	Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUH between Channel Isles and Brittany Coast. (Operation "Neptune"	14.6.44 15.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
~~15.6.44~~		~~2 mine-sweepers~~	~~Estimated damaged by ASHANTI and PIORUN between Channel Isles and Brittany coast. (Op. "Neptune".)~~	~~14.6.44 15.6.44~~
13.6.44		U-Boat	Heavy explosion and thick column of black smoke to 1000 ft. 16 minutes after depth charge attack by Wellington 34 miles S.W. of Brest. U/B was surfaced northbound. Posn. ?47.59 N. 05.28 W. ?damaged or sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	A.S.O.S. 1302 14.6.44
13.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Canso A/C T/162 in 62.45 N. 02.01 W. (120 miles N.N.W. of Muckle Flugga.) Survivors picked up.	14.6.44 20.6.44 A.S.O.S. 1301 A.S.O.S. 1302.
Night 13/ 14.6.44		Minesweeper	Claimed set on fire by DUFF off Cap la Hague. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	D.O.R. 1761
14.6.44		E-Boat	Claimed sunk by a Wellington A/C 15 miles S.W. of St. Valery. (Operation "Neptune".)	14.6.44
14.6.44		3 E-Boats	Claimed damaged by a Wellington A/C 15 miles S.W. of St. Valery. (Operation "Neptune".)	14.6.44
14.6.44		U-Boat	HIND engaged contact off Start Point - S.O. of E.G. considers sunk. (Op. "Neptune".)	15.6.44
14.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Mosquito 70 miles N.W. of Bergen. 2 bodies seen in the water. Position 61. 06. N. 03.25 E.	15.6.44 A.S.O.S. 1302
Night 14/ 15.6.44		E-Boat	Air raid on Havre. Aground. (Op. "Neptune")	15.6.44
Night 14/ 15.6.44		E-Boat	Air raid on Havre. Damaged. (Op. "Neptune")	15.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 14/ 15.6.44		T.L.C.3	Air raid on Havre. Capsized. (Op. "Neptune".)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Probably hit by Hedgehog from DUCKWORTH, 23 miles S.S.E. of Portland Bill. (Operation "Neptune".)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by U.S.escort carrier SOLOMON's group in 25.10 S. 04.55 west (600 miles S. of St. Helena.)	15.6.44
15.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked by SATYR in 68.01 N. 005.08 E. (170 miles W. of the Lofoten Is.) U/B appeared tc break in half.	24.6.44 28.6.44
16.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Mosquito A/C in 61.01 N. 003.00 E. (90 miles S.W. of Stadtlandet, Norway.)	16.6.44
17.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Norwegian manned Catalina A/C D/333 in 63.06 N. 02.05 E. about 100 miles N.W. of Stadt-landet, Norway. 40 survivors and wreck-age seen.	17.6.44 20.6.44
Reported 17.6.44		2 6 caiques 1 U/J boat.	Destroyed by UN-SWERVING in Potamo.	17.6.44
Night 17/ 18.6.44		Corvette	Silenced and set on fire aft by coastal forces in Piombino Channel.	19.6.44
18.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by FAME (R.C.14) in 49.05.02 N. 03. 13.06 W. (off Sept Isles.) 1 survivor recovered. (Op. "Neptune".)	18.6.44 20.6.44
19.6.44		2 R-Boats	Damaged by air attack between Kalimmo and Cape Daphni.	19.6.44

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
Night 20/ 21.6.44		Corvette	2 torpedo hits by coastal forces between Leghorn and Spezia.	23.6.44
Night 20/ 21.6.44		K.T.ship	One hit as above.	23.6.44
21.6.44		U/J Boat	Destroyed by UNSPARING or UNSWERVING north of C. Malea, Greece.	22.6.44 28.6.44
21.6.44		250 ton A/S vacht	Sunk by UNIVERSAL off Rion I. S. France.	25.6.44
21.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 0230 by Wellington A/304 in 50.00 N. 02.50 W.	28.6.44
21.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked by Sunderland A/C L/228 and Halifax D/502 in 49.36 N. 8.28 W. Probably damaged. (Op. "Neptune".)	21.6.44 28.6.44
22.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by U.S.Liberator M/103 in 49.15 N. 05.12 W. Oil & wreckage seen.	28.6.44
23.6.44		Escort trawler	Sunk by M.T.B.Unit 6.0.2, 8 miles S. of La Corbiere, Channel Is. (Operation "Neptune".)	23.6.44
23.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack by Wellington and Liberator at 1614 25 miles S.W. of Jersey. Wreckage seen. (Op. "Neptune".)	24.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boat	Set on fire by Albacore A/C off Calais.	A.S.O.S. No. 1311
23.6.44		E-Boat	Destroyed by Albacore A/C off Dunkirk.	A.S.O.S. No. 1311
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Dunkirk.	A.S.O.S. No. 1311

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
23.6.44		2 patrol boats	Sunk by UNSWERVING in Aegean. No details.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	Probably sunk by Wellington A/C off The Hague.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boat	Sunk by Albacore A/C off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E/R Boats	Damaged by Albacore A/C off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Damaged by Albacore A/C 5 miles N. of Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E/R Boat	Bombs from Swordfish A/C straddled off Calais.	28.6.44
23.6.44		M-class minesweeper	Damaged by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Sunk by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		2 E-Boats	1 set on fire, 1 damaged by Beaufighter A/C N.W. of Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	Left sinking by Beaufighter A/C turning into Boulogne.	28.6.44
23.6.44		E-Boat	R.P. and cannon hits by Beaufighter A/C turning into Boulogne.	28.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack at 240034Z in 15.16 N. 59.55 W. (900 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) Oil and debris.	25.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Promising attack in same position at 240256Z.	25.6.44
~~24.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by A/C D/333 in 62.55 N. 00.00 E. (130 miles N. by E. of the Shetlands.)~~	~~26.6.44~~
~~24.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by HAIDA and [illegible] in 48.50 N. (or 59 N.) 05.42 W. Survivors picked up. Op. "Neptune".~~	~~28.6.44~~

German Warships Sunk or Damaged - Continued.

Date	Name	Type of Vessel	Details	Diary Ref.
24.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by destroyer HAIDA in 48.59 N. 05.42 W. survivors picked up. (Op. "Neptune".)	24.6.44 28.6.44
24.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Catalina F/162 in 62.55 N. 00.00, A/C shot down by U/B. Survivors of U/B seen but not rescued. Survivors of F/162 rescued.	28.6.44 26.6.44
Reported 24.6.44		E/R Boat	Sunk at eastern end of Channel by A/C. Operation "Neptune".	24.6.44
Reported 24.6.44		E/R Boat	Damaged at eastern end of Channel by A/C. Operation "Neptune".	24.6.44
Night 24/ 25.6.44		Torpedo boat	Driven ashore, total loss, on Murter Is. Adriatic.	26.6.44
25.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by frigate BICKERTON in 50.00 N. 03.00 W. (32 miles S. E. of Start Pt.) Survivors picked up.* Operation "Neptune"	25.6.44
~~25.6.44~~		~~U-Boat~~	~~Sunk by Frigate BICKERTON (32 miles S.E. of Start Pt.) Survivors picked up. Operation "Neptune".~~	~~25.6.44~~
26.6.44		U-Boat	Considered by ships of 1st E.G. to be mortally hit in 50. 03 N. 02.59 E.* Operation "Neptune".	26.6.44
26.6.44		U-Boat	Attacked and believed sunk by BULLDOG in 54.34 N. 011.04 W. (30 miles W.N.W. of Erris Head, Ireland.)	26.6.44
26.6.44		U-Boat	Sunk by Liberator N/86 in 62.03 N. 01.45 E. (90 miles W. by S. of Stadt-landet, Norway). 15 survivors seen.	26.6.44 28.6.44

* Note: Wrecks of 2 U/Bs were fixed in 50.01 N. 03.50 W. and 50.03 N. 02.56.30 W. 1 is that sunk by BICKERTON and the other was sunk by attack on night 25/26 June (C. in C. Plymouth 282100B June 1944.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.2.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

KING GEORGE V arrived at Scapa this afternoon.

An unknown Enemy unit, possibly a surface craft, was located by D/F at 0856 this morning in 48° N., 25° W., near which position the Dutch PRINS FREDERIK HENDRIK had been detained by MANISTEE at 2100 last night.

The Germans claim in a broadcast that an E-Boat sank SS ANGULARITY (501 tons) The ship sailed in F.N. 101 and has not arrived.

British Air Activity

Patrols in the southern half of the North Sea were curtailed today by bad weather. Coastal Command aircraft covered the coast of Norway south of Trondheim but observed nothing of importance. All convoys in the N.W. Approaches were escorted during daylight today. All night patrols and offensive operations by Coastal Command were cancelled owing to bad weather; for the same reason Bomber Command carried out no operations last night or today.

Enemy Air Activity

There was very considerable Air activity in the Thames Estuary last night, a series of illuminating Flares being dropped over the North Kent Coast eastwards from the Swale as though a survey of the coast-line was being carried out; and unknown objects, either Mines or Incendiary Bombs, were dropped near the Thames and Medway Gates.

No attacks on shipping are reported.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.2.1941.
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Minelaying on a considerably increased scale was carried out last night by enemy aircraft off the Humber, Thames Estuary, East Anglia and Yorkshire coast. Estimated 90 minelayers employed.

At Liverpool precautions are still required when entering the port; in the Bristol Channel it was ordered this evening that no ships are to leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff, or Barry until further orders and Swansea only if westbound; and it was decided this morning that the Humber should in future be closed daily from sunset until noon in view of the mining situation.

Shipping and Convoys

Steps to overcome delays in the operation of our limited number of tankers are being taken, and by agreement with the Petroleum Board discharges of tankers continues by night and in many places until enemy aircraft are engaged by gunfire.

SS SESOSTRIS which was missing from Convoy S.C. 19 after the U-Boat attacks on 29/1 is overdue and is presumed lost.

South Atlantic

DELHI has engine defects which reduce her maximum speed (in serious emergency) to about 20 knots.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.2.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Suez Canal

In addition to magnetic mines it is reported that the enemy have dropped in the Canal a new type of contact mine specially designed for use in the Canal.

2 minesweeping hoppers were mined today with some loss of life. Ships up to 8000 tons can pass the obstructions, but all movement in the canal except sweepers is stopped soth of Lake Timsah.

Satisfactory arrangements for Canal watching have been made, and the A.A. defence of Suez is being improved. The 142nd Minesweeping Group have arrived at Suez from U.K. at this critical juncture, with their D.G.coils completely rotted; as a result the vessels cannot be used until their D.G. equipment has been renewed.

C. in C., Med. has asked for the urgent despatch of 2 D.W.I. Wellington aircraft.

Force H.

S.O.Force H in RENOWN left Gibraltar this afternoon with MALAYA, ARK ROYAL, SHEFFIELD and 10 destroyers for operations against Genoa.

Operation M.C. 7.

C. in C., Mediterranean reports that Operation M.C. 7 (Diversion to assist operation "Result") was completed without incident. No enemy forces were sighted nor was the Fleet attacked although it was sighted and reported by an aircraft at 0830/2.

Air Raid on Malta

3 enemy aircraft bombed the aerodromes from 1810 to 2035, causing no damage or casualties.

Sollum

Sollum Harbour is still mined.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.2.1941
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

U-Boat Campaign

4 survivors from tanker BRITISH PREMIER, torpedoed on 24/12 off the West Coast of Africa, have been rescued after being in a small open boat for 41 days and after 25 days without food.

Defence of U.K.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Rona Minefield. Proposed Amendment of Notice to Mariners.

A.C.O.S. 1125/5/2. Propose Notice to Mariners No. 1768 (T) of 1940 be amended to inform ships that it is dangerous to pass North and east of line joining Vestrahorn (Iceland) Sulisker and Brough of Birsay (Orkneys).
(C.in C. H.F. 1493/6 to Admty).

Loch Ryan Examination anchorage.

My 1441/4. Stranrach Loch Ryan. Examination anchorage established. Position.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1503/6 to Admty).

Operational Control of Aircraft.

Iceland letter 9/50/40 of 30/12/40 and A.C.O.S. letter 79/OS 178 of 23/1/41. Group Captain R.A.F. is under G.O.C. and entirely controlled by him. A/C envisaged in A.M. 1739/25/1. will presumably be under Group Captain and therefore under G.O.C. Unless control of A/C operating over sea is under F.O.I.C. there can be no certainty that they will be available when and where required or that their movements will be reported to C.in C.
(F.O.Iceland, 1741/6 to Admty).

Defence of U.K.

Green Flares off Yarmouth.

Re confusion caused.
(C.in C. Nore 0030/6 to Admty).

Following has been made to H.Q.F.C.

Your A.254 5/2. Enquiry has been made of F.O.I.C. Yarmouth and nothing is known of the origin of these signals. 0022. Ends.
(C.in C. Nore 0038/6 to Admty).

DELUGE.

At 1130/6.
(D.C.1208/6).
At 2330/6.
(D.C.2345/6 and 0905/7).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY. 6.2.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of United Kingdom. (Contd.)

Oban. Proposed alteration of nets. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1644/6 to Admty).

Movements.

C.21. MINERVE. During your passage to Dundee the hostile identity of any submarine encountered must be established beyond doubt before it is attacked.
(S.9. 0941/6 to C.21 and MINERVE).

CIRCASSIA. Your 1930/5. Proceed direct to Liverpool.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1418/6 to CIRCASSIA).

Northern Patrol. Trawler lines tonight.
3 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1551/6).

Submarines. Positions, at 0800/7 and movements, following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1719/6).

Holyhead and Portsmouth. S/M bombing Restrictions. Ops. 169 6/2.
Institute total S.B.R. Holyhead Sanctuary from 0830 to 1730 daily from 7/2 to 9/2 incl: and Portsmouth Sanctuary from 0730/7 to 1130/7.
(H.Q.C.C. 1840/6).

Information for CACHALOT. Situation at 2000 of ARROW and convoy and of HAVELOCK and convoy.
(S.2. 1847/6 to CACHALOT).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

PRINS FREDERIK HENDRIK.	(Dutch 1288 tons) Detained at 2100 in 47° 25'N., 22° 48'W. Papers suspicious. Keeping in company to join her up with convoy S.L.S. 63 at 1200/6. (MANISTER 0210/6 to F.O.C.N.P.)
Operation P.K.	Postponed a further 24 hours. (C.in C. Nore 1121/6).
W estern Channel. Patrol.	On conclusion of practices tonight KELLY KASHMIR and KIPLING are to patrol between longitude Start Point and Lizard Head returning Plymouth at 1000/7. Object to cover shipping in Channel. (C.in C. W.A. 1153/6).
Patrol O.	Carry out O tomorrow night instead of tonight. (C.in C. Nore 1407/6 to D.16).

British Air Activity.

Air Searches.	Today. (C.in C. Rosyth 0638/6).
Air Rescue Craft in Dover Area. Proposed increase.	Desirable to concentrate more rescue craft in Dover area. Request one each be sent, Lerwick, Orkneys, Aberdeen, Blyth, Humber and that consideration may be given to transference of an M.L.Flotilla from the West (Air Ministry 1745/6 to Admty).
Squadrons 804 and 253.	Re Movements. (5th S.L. 1843/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS. (Bombed 5/2).

Standing by in 056° 15'N., 011° 56'W. Timber laden. Floating well. Request tugs. 15 men remaining on board. Picked up boat with Master and 18 officers and men 2 wounded.
(LADY MADELEINE 0025/6).

Steamer settled by stern. Have taken off remainder of crew 30 all told. One man seriously injured, required medical assistance. PICOTTEE has 4. Am standing by awaiting tug. A/S out of action.
(LADY MADELEINE 1112/6).

056° 20'N., 011° 20'W. requested by LADY MADELEINE to stand by whilst picking up survivors. Have 4 survivors on board remainder on board LADY MADELEINE. Ship towable. No sign of tug. Am proceeding to join convoy.
(PICOTTEE 1123/6).

Proceeding Londonderry with seriously wounded leaving NORTHERN GEM with Derelict. E.T.A. 0930 7th.
(LADY MADELEINE 1622/6).

WAZIRISTAN (Bombed 2/2.)

Unless ship with D/F or air escort is sent it is improbable that Tug BANDIT will R/V LORD MIDDLETON tow parted by swell. Will attempt to tow at daylight if weather continues to moderate. No check on position obtainable since 1600/4. Must leave 2000 tonight for fuel.
(DOUGLAS 0527/6 to C.in C. H.F.)

Attack of E/A on C.S.24.

DOUGLAS 0527/6. Proposed DOUGLAS refuel in Faroes tonight leaving LORD MIDDLETON in charge of WAZIRISTAN and rejoin her as soon as possible.
(A.C.O.S. 1031/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

A.C.O.S. 1031/6. DOUGLAS is to comply unless otherwise ordered by C.in C. W.A. DOUGLAS has now joined W.A. Command. (C.in C. H.F. 1352/6 to DOUGLAS).

Proceed with WAZARISTAN to Kirkwall DOUGLAS and MARAUDER join and remain with WAZIRISTAN till further orders. (A.C.O.S. 1721/6 to BANDIT).

My 1031/6. Oil from WAR PINDARI in Skaale Fiord. You should pass through Skopen Fiord keeping between 61° 45'N., and 62° 18'N. delaying your arrival till after daylight if necessary. (A.C.O.S. 1842/6 to DOUGLAS).

BANDIT has WAZIRISTAN in tow, speed 8 knots. LORD MIDDLETON ordered to return to patrol. Reference C.in C. H.F. 1352/6, A.C.O.S's 1031/6 not received. WAZIRISTAN seaworthy floating light but 20 feet of water in engine room and boiler room. Request instructions. Position 61° 38'N., 10° 57'E. (DOUGLAS 1930/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

Your 1930/6. XTX. LORD MIDDLETON has been ordered by S.O.Trawlers N.P. to rejoin Thursday. When she arrives comply with my 1031/6. (A.C.O.S. 2258/6 to DOUGLAS.)

Thames Estuary. — Summary of aircraft activity in Thames Estuary for night of 5/6 Feb. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1306/6 to C.in C. Nore).

Attack of 5/2 on C.E.24. — Your 1521/5. Request information as to number of Dive-Bombers which attacked C.E. Convoy at 0950/5 and confirmation that these aircraft were JU. 87's. (D.D.I.C. 1441/6 to C.in C. Nore).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Your 1441/6. BLENCATHRA reports approx. 12 Aircraft attacked the convoy and that they were JU.87's.
(C.in C. Nore, 1821/6 to Admty).

BARON RENFREW (Bombed 28/1.)

Arrived Aberdossan tug ST. OLAVES with 4 survivors from BARON RENFREW.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1825/6).

Attack on 4/2 on F.N. Convoy off Gunfleet.

VANITY's 1150/4. Dornier was shot down by gunfire from VANITY.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1943/6).

Mining.

Liverpool.

Do not arrive seaward end of Q.Z.S. 211 before 0800/7. Precautions.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1011/6 to VANOC).

Approach route.

Cancel my 1007/2/12/40.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1146/6.)

Humber to be closed for a period daily.

Until a further signal is made it is intended owing to the Mining Situation to close the Humber daily from sunset until 1200 the following day.
(F.O. Humber 1015/6) (C.in C. Rosyth 1730/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

MENESTHEUS (Mined 5/2).	Expect BEAUFORT as A/S air escort about 1300. (C.in C. Rosyth 1120/6 to MENESTHEUS).
	Join MENESTHEUS in tow of AGAMEMNON estimated at 1200 today 059° 24'N., 007° 12'W Course 142° speed 4 knots. Provide A/S escort to destination. (A.C.O.S. 1158/6 to BUTTERMERE, WINDERMERE).
	My position course and speed 058° 55'N., 006° 35'W. 145° 7.5 knots. One engine serviceable. ST. ALBANS and CHARLESTON in company. (MENESTHEUS 1500/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Bristol Channel.	Ships may now enter and leave Avonmouth and Barry Docks but are not to enter or leave Cardiff or Newport until further orders. Ships may now proceed from Swansea to the Eastward subject to above instructions. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1145/6).
	Owing to suspected minelaying no ships are to leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff or Barry until further orders. Ships may leave Swansea only if bound to westward. Incoming ships are to anchor to westward of Breaksea Light Vessel. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 2134/6).
Operation E.A.	My 2234/5. Southern half of Q Z S 178 has been swept and should be used. (C.in C. Rosyth 1150/6 to TEVIOT BANK).
M.A/S.B. 12. (Mined 3/2).	My 1544/3. Sunk while in tow. Reasonable chance of salvage. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1159/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

INTREPID, ICARUS, IMPULSIVE. Intended Operation. (V.C.N.S. 1202/6).
See Operations Volume.

P.W.2. Weather permitting M.T.B. Operations P.W.2. will be carried out tonight.
(C.in C. Nore, 1440/6).

M.T.B's 22, 32 and 34 sailed at 1809.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1813/6).

Thames Estuary. At 1719/5 Mine detonated by S.A. gear 1.4 miles 225° B.5. Buoy.
(Capt: M/S Sheerness 1532/6).

Falmouth. 3 ground mines exploded during heavy weather p.m./5. Positions.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1700/6).

Enemy Intelligence.

By D/F at 0856/6 position of unknown enemy unit was approximately 48° N., 25° W. Possible that this unit is a surface craft.
(D.D.I.C. 0947/6). (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/6 to ships.)

Kiel Canal. Repeating N.A. Stockholm's 2024/4.
Other information tends to confirm that Kiel Canal is frozen.
(D.D.I.C. 1701/6 to C.in C. H.F. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

General.
Ships with ~~Port~~ stores. (D.S.T. 1112/6.)

Coastal Convoys.

E.N.67. Route. (ULLSWATER 0515/6).

F.S.4. 10 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0953/6.)
Absentees.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0954/6).
Escort.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1752/6).

E.N.68. Sailed 0800/7. 20 ships and submarine L.23.
Code Words.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 0959/6).

F.N.100. Arrived 1000.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 1020/6).

F.N.99. Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Sunderland 1105/6, F.O.I.C. Tyne 1632/6, N.C.S.O. Methil 1716/6).

F.N.1. List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 1150/6, F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1547/6).
Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1659/6).

E.N.66. All arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1204/6).

Dangerous Area. Warning to Commodore. (D.T.D. 2139/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Ocean Convoys. (Contd.)	
O.G.O.52.	Sailed. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 0835/6).
O.G.52.	Escort left. (Capt: D. Londonderry, 1635/6).
H.X.104.	Asking position. (C.in C. W.A. 1231/6 to CHURCHILL).
H.G.53.	Left. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1330/6).
H.X.105.	Not met. Position. (WITCH, 1400/6 to C.in C. W.A.)
S.L.63.	Route for CANTON. (C.in C. W.A. 1507/6).
S.C.19.	Summary, 5 ships torpedoed. (D.T.D. 1607/6 to N.S.H.Q.Ottawa).
S.C.20.	Destinations. (D.T.D. 1609/6).
H.X.106.	Sailing telegram is amended by Admty. (D.T.D. 1613/6).
H.X.103.	Summary, 2 ships sunk. (D.T.D. 1837/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
Tankers.	Re expediting discharge at Falmouth. (D.T.D. 1745/6).
Dangerous Area.	Warning to Commodores. (D.T.D. 2129/6).

MOST SECRET.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Coastal Convoys.

Various Sailings.	C.in C. W.A. 1237/6, 1857/6, N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 2014/6.
O.B.283.	Sailed 0300/9. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1405/6).
F.S.5.	Humber and Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1459/6, 1601/6) Escort. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1752/6, C.in C. Nore 2042/6)
W.N.79.	Arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1714/6).
W.N.81.	Sailed 1830/6. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1840/6).
F.N.2.	Escort. (C.in C. Nore, 2042/6).
C.W.25.	Postponed 24 hours. (C.in C. Nore, 2134/6).
F.S.5.	Sailed 2300/6, 195 ships. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 2323/6).

Ocean Convoys.

O.G.C.	Sailed. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0415/6 and list, 1033/6). 14 ships. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0655/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Military Convoys.

W.S.6. My 1625/4. A/S Escort W.S.6. Add NAPIER to Clyde portion.
(C.in C. W.A. 1819/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

MERCHANT ROYAL. (Steering defect 5/2).	Sail tug ABEILLE 4 to assist MERCHANT ROYAL broken down in 155° Duncansby Head 5 miles at 2103/5 steering S.E. slowly. One Cruiser and a sloop standing by her. (C.in C. Rosyth 0002/6 to N.O.I.C. Peterhead).
	Tug, ABEILLE No.4 sailed 0056/6. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 0058/6).
ROCKPOOL (Grounded 1/2).	Proceed forthwith to assistance of ROCKPOOL aground on South end of Little Cumbrae and now requiring assistance. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0520/5 to SCHELDE).
STANHOPE.	(British 2337 tons). Ashore Hammond Knoll 22 miles Cromer. (Humber Radio 0527/6).
	No danger. No assistance required at present. (Humber Radio 0551/6).
	S.O.S. off South Leman Buoy. Proceeding slowly. Still required assistance. (Portishead Radio 0846/6).
	Sailed tug ST. MELLONS to assist at 1035. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1054/6).
	Join ST. MELLONS proceeding to assist. Afford A.A. protection. (N.O.I.C. Harwich, 1143/6 to SNAPDRAGON).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

E.T.A. 5 buoy about 1600/6. Reports water gaining gradually. Take her into Yarmouth Roads if necessary. ST. MELLONS informed. (C.in C. Nore, 1351/6 to SNAPDRAGON.)

Am making for Harwich with her. (SNAPDRAGON 1450/6 to N.O.I.C. Harwich).

Arrivals tug ST. MELLONS and STANHOPE - at 2340. Anchored in examination anchorage. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2347/6).

Lifeboat sighted 5/2.

Whitley aircraft will be assisting search for life-boat between 015° and 020° W. (C.in C. W.A. 0909/6 to CLARKIA).

SCARBOROUGH.

Have defective wiring in A/S Control board.

Proceeding to Campbeltown for repair. Will rejoin convoy by p.m./7. (SCARBOROUGH 1045/6).

CHURCHILL.

Arrived. 24 hours, required to make good defects. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1219/6).

POLITICIAN (Grounded 5/2).

Ship lying most easterly point of Eriskay Island South Uist Outer Hebrides. (Port Patrick Radio 1245/6).

SANDHURST.

One Corvette is to be sailed for Southend to arrive by 1600/7 to act as an escort for SANDHURST sailing in tow of WATERMEYER with F.N.3. on 8/2 and will be required to proceed as far as Tyne where BRIGAND will take over the tow.

C.in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange onward passage of SANDHURST from Tyne and for Corvette to return to Harwich with first available F.S.Convoy.

Report name of Corvette detailed. (C.in C. Nore 1514/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

Your 1514/6 SHEARWATER detailed.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1754/6 to C.in C. Nore).

DELHI. Condenser trouble. Proceeding on one engine only. (DELHI 2247/6).
See South Atlantic.

ANGULARITY. (501 tons) Sailed in Convoy F.N.101, not arrived. Germans claim in broadcast sunk by E/Boat which took off survivors. (B.M.S.E.298).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raider Situation.

(1) Atlantic.	EURYLOCHUS and AFRIC STAR attacked by one armed merchant, raider and a vessel possibly SCHEER and possibly one or both are moving towards east coast of South America. Some reports of their possible movement to this area received but they may be deliberately planted.
	An R. distress signal from an unknown ship 350 miles S.W. of Azores on 1/2 and an incorrectly cancelled R distress signal from British ST. LINDSAY 20 miles south of Azores on 3/2 may indicate a raider in that area, but no definite proof.
	Another raider identified by D/F on 28/1 near 7° S., 22° W.
(2) Southern Ocean.	This raider appears to be moving north eastwards towards Prince Edward Island.
(3) Indian Ocean.	D/F indicated that MANDASOR's raider had moved to west of Seychelles by 4/2.
(4) Pacific Ocean.	No news.
(5) HIPPER	Left Brest possibly night 1/2nd/2 not yet located. (D.D.I.C. 2318/6 to C.in C's H.F. S.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

Degaussing of Prizes at Gibraltar.

Whilst awaiting completion of crews should the more valuable French prizes detained at Gibraltar and destined for U.K. be degaussed before leaving? Provided no interference with important naval work is occasioned.
(A.S. Gibraltar 1304/6 to Admty).

Convoy passing Gibraltar.

French armed trawler DENIS PAPIN passed Gibraltar eastbound at 1230/6 escorting French M/V's BOURGES, 2910 tons, SAINT LOUIS 5202 tons, and ASTREE, 2147 tons.
(D.O.R. 7/1).

French Ships' movements.

Following from Navy Department from Dakar, 3/2, sailed French SAN PEDRO for South and MEDNOVARDA for Morocco. 4/2 arrived French MARAKESH from Morocco with African troops.
(N.A.Washington 1700/6, to Admty).

North Atlantic.

OTUS R. of P., Azores.

Conditions normal. No local patrol; Destroyer in Ponta Delgada. Unreliable report Italian submarines have fuelled Ponta Delgada.
(OTUS 0613/6 to Capt: (S) 8 S.F.)

Repeated to TUNA, adding "destroyer is probably Portuguese. (Capt: S.8 1212/6 to TUNA F.O (S) 1306/6 for Admty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY. 6.2.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Contd.)

Submarine patrol off Azores. TUNA on patrol off Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A.1004/6).

SANTAREM (Brazilian) My 2317/5. Ship was boarded off Lisbon (Lisboa) by IMPERIALIST at 1220/5 but released as reports concerning Frau Schmeeberg not then been received. This person is said to be carrying mail for South America delivered to herself by Sitma. It is these mails which are to be removed. (F.O.C.N.A. 1031/6 to N.A.Stn).

Your 2317/5 should be considered cancelled. It is important that SANTAREM should not be stopped. (D.E.W.D. 1207/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Evacuation of Gibraltar. Cancel my 2317/5 and 1031/6. SANTAREM is not to be molested. (F.O.C.N.A. 1351/6).

A/S Vessels. Convoy. 12 hours early. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1200/8 with 4 ships in convoy. (LEITH 1037/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MARSDALE. Your 0900/6 not approved. Proceed to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.P. 1416/6 to MARSDALE).

Enemy Unit. Unknown enemy unit possible surface craft was in approx. 048° N., 025° W. at 0900/6. German ship PLUS left Vigo night of 4/5 Feb. destination unknown. (Capt: S.8. 1652/6 to OTUS).

Aircraft for Takoradi. QUOIN sailed Glasgow 31/1 with 4 Blenheims for Takoradi. Freighter MAID sailed Leith 30/1, with 6 Blenheim aircraft for Takoradi. (D.C.T. 1107/6 to S.P.O. I/C Takoradi).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Contd.)

Azores Patrol. PANDORA.

My 1019/25/1. Dockyard work on PANDORA will not be completed and she will not be ready till (date) to sail. Unless Admty. direct otherwise do not intend to extend UNA's time on patrol and there will thus be a gap of 3 days in which no submarine will be on patrol.
(F.O.(S) 1656/6 to Admty etc.)

LOCH OSKAIG.

Weather off Lisbon, mist, visibility varies ½ to 15 miles. Request instructions should we return to port as previously arranged or remain in Patrol area until relieved?
(LOCH OSKAIG 2030/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Evacuation of Gibraltar.

Numbers. (in reply to Col. Off. No.3. of 1/1) (Gov. Gib. 2030/6).

South Atlantic.

A/S Vessels.

Your 1305/4. Auxiliary A/S group 16 is fully manned and will sail from Durban 10/2. POL I and POL V are ready for passage but awaiting crew from U.K. My 1147B/29 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0825B/6 to C.in C. Med.)

ARNDALE.

Proceed to enter Montevideo at 0900 ~~2~~ 3 + 3 Monday 10/2. 24 hour non-fuelling visit. Instructions.
(R.A.S.A.D. to ARNDALE 0918Z/6).

MANDASOR overdue.

Overdue shipping. MANDASOR due Durban 4th from Calcutta not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 0937B/6).

Aircraft for Takoradi.

GUDVIN sailed Glasgow 31/1 with 4 Blenheims for Takoradi. Freightship BARON SEMPLE sailed Leith 30/1, with 3 Blenheim aircraft for Takoradi.
(D.S.T. 1107/6 to S.T.O. I/C Takoradi).

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (Contd.)

CANTON CHITRAL. — Your 1834/5. Programmes for refit etc. (C.in C. S.A. to Admty, 1201/6). See Operations Volume.

Convoy Information for Admty. — Your 1946/5. (Re maintainance full information re Ocean Convoys.) Request if any particular signals are in mind so that matter may be investigated or whether signal is precautionary only. (C.in C. S.A. 1211N/6 to Admty).

S.S. LANCING. — Have you any news of Norwegian ship LANCING due south Georgia 31/1 from Curacoa departure 30/12. (N.C.S.O.(I) Freetown 1359N/6 to N.O.I.C. Falklands).

CUMBERLAND NEWCASTLE ASTURIAS. — Cruisers are at Pig, CUMBERLAND transferring fuel to NEWCASTLE. Intend to remain in Rio area for the present but necessary to fuel F.O. about 12/2. ASTURIAS close to Santos now, fuel at Rio de Janeiro 12/2 normally resuming patrol in K 32, K 33. I will arrange visit. (R.A.S.A.D. 1435/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

ASTURIAS, Visit to Rio. — My 1749/31. Please ask permission for 24 hours visit entering 0900 local time 12/2. For C.G. (requirements). ASTURIAS comply. (R.A.S.A.D., 1619/6 to Ambassador, Rio de Janeiro.)

LADY DENISON PENDER. — My 1929/4. St. Vincent C.V. report 0940/6. communication established with LADY DENISON PENDER. (C.in C. S.A. 1601N/6 to I.C.S.)

Raider Identity. — Your 2305/5. Decision as to whether raider is ADMIRAL SCHEER is urgent. Request details re triangular structure and tripod mast. SCHEER may have been modified and have an overhanging bow. (D.D.I.C. 1636/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY. 6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (Contd.)

	My 2305/5 and your 1636/6. Fourth Officer states triangular structure was a large structure arising from bridge level. Midshipman still states he saw a tripod mast in glare of searchlight at about level of light but unable to say in what position in ship this was or any other details. (C.in C. S.A. 2027/6 to Admty).
AFRICA MARU.	Your 1705/4. Ask South African authorities to remove (details) Release remainder of cargo. Release ship when above items have been landed. (D.E.W.D. 1652/6 to S.O.(I) Capetown).
Santos.	My 1314Z/5.* N.C.S.O. Santos reports there is no change in position at Santos. (S.O.(I) Montevideo 1744/6). * (Re Axis ships appear to have steam up or testing).
Axis ships at Montevideo.	My 1314Z/5 with exception of Santos there are no signs of activity among enemy or Danish merchant vessels at other ports on this coast. (N.S.O.(I) Montevideo 2053Z/6).
EURYLOCHUS (sunk by raider 29/1).	My 2305N/5/2. Survivors now in Freetown number 11 (details) (C.in C. S.A. 2131/6 to Admty).
DELHI. defects.	My position 02l 00'S., 000 00'E. at 2000Z-1/6. Owing to serious and extensive trouble in Starboard condenser am proceeding on one engine only. Maximum speed available in serious emergency probably about 20 knots. Repairs impossible until all fives can be died out. (DELHI 2247/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation M.C.7. Mining of Tobruk and Sollum.

My 1427/1/1 (1427/31 intended) and 2149/2. Operation M.C.7 completed without incident. No enemy force sighted by forces sweeping the patrol area Rhodes or by Battle Squadron throughout period at sea except that fleet was sighted and reported by an aircraft when S.W. of Gavdo Island at 0830/2. Report of sighting was broadcast on commercial wave which seems to indicate movement of merchant vessels was in progress or contemplated.
Enemy aircraft mined Mersa Tobruk on 4/2 but owing to urgency of providing army supplies it has been necessary to continue movement of merchant ships and accept the risk pending arrival of Corvettes who cannot reach Mersa Tobruk until 7/2. Sollum harbour is still mined.
(C.-in-C. Med. 0329/6.)

CARLISLE

Your 0708/5 to Admty. Request you will inform me of nature of essential work to be carried out on CARLISLE. Your 0812/2 not received.
(C.-in-C. Med. 1209/6 to C.-in-C. E.I.)

BENGHAZI.

Indications that Italians are preparing to evacuate Benghazi.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. 1217/6)

Instructions for entering Tobruk.

Ships visiting Tobruk are not to pass beyond position 032° 04'N. 024° 12' 30" E. unless escorted by a trawler or examination vessel. Ships are to make their E.T.A. in accordance with C.B. (two corrupt groups) Q to B.S.N.O. Tobruk Lighthouse.
(C.-in-C. Med. 1243/6).

Mining of Suez Canal.

Reported B.2:- In addition to magnetic mines enemy dropped new type of contact mine specially designed for use in canal. This mine sinks to bottom on landing. Mercury ballast in it then leaks slowly and mine eventually begins to rise, rate of rising given as 5 metres every 96 hours. Informant believes not all mines have risen yet.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal. 1251/6 to C.-in-C. Med).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

Mining of Suez Canal. (Contd.)

H.M. Minesweeping Hopper No.39 mined ashore side of canal at k.m.136.2. Fear some casualties. Canal Company hopper mined and sunk at k.m.138.7. Skid exploded mine at k.m.83.4. Ships up to about 8,000 tons could pass all obstructions but all traffic stopped during sweeping operations. Two skid towing Tugs Conrad control are diesel and would be likely to explode acoustic mines but this has not happened.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Can. 1303/6).

Your 1107/5. Satisfactory arrangements for Canal watching system have been made with military who are providing one Battalion for this service today. A.A. defence of Suez is also being improved.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1317/6 to Admty.)

Safety from acoustic mines may be achieved by stopping main engines and if possible diesel auxiliaries when passing known position of mine that has not responded to sweeping.
This may be of particular value in Suez Canal where accurate marking of mines is simple matter.
(D.M.S. 1653/6, to C.-in-C., Med. etc.)

All movement in Canal except that of sweeping craft is at present stopped south of Lake Timsah. Intend to sweep this portion with all resources at my disposal on 7/2 and 8/2 and then resume traffic after a final sweep a.m./9. Risk of damage to ships gared up by any mines exploded being accepted.
(S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1953/6.)

Estimate of size of ships able to pass through Canal so far as obstructions are concerned (a) up to about 8,000 tons, now
(b) up to about 15000 tons on 18/2
(c) up to maximum tonnage 5/3.
Above liable to considerable revision as work proceeds.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 2010/6).

MOST SECRET.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean (Contd.)

Minesweepers Defective.	142 nd minesweeping group have arrived Suez from U.K. at a most critical juncture with their D.G. coils completely rotted due to having been encased in cement and secured down to deck. As a result they cannot be used until their whole D.G. equipment has been renewed. Request confirmation that othe LL minesweeping units will arrive ready for service. (C.in C. Med. 2301/6 to Agmty).
	Request 2 D.W.I. Wellington fully modified be despatched to Egypt forthwith. Ring and generator plant will be fitted by R.A.F. at Ismailia. Urgently required. (C.in C. Med., 2215/6 to Agmty).
URSULA.	Extend your patrol area 10 miles to westward to 011° 15'. (Capt: S.1., 1425/6 to URSULA).
Convoy S.V.One.	1300 G.M.T./6. Ships and destinations. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1613/6).
Genoa reported closing.	Your 1428/5. All Swiss Commercial traffic from Genoa to Switzerland has been suspended for the moment. As volume of traffic now being dealt with at Genoa is such below pre-war it would appear suspension is on account of military reasons and not due to any congestion of merchandise in Port. (N.A.Madrid 1621/6 to Agmty.)
French Govt., Policy.	B.2. information from Casablanca 4 and 5/2. (D.N.I. 1649/6 to C.in C. Med.) See Mediterranean Volume.
DOMINION MONARCH.	Your 0632/6. No objection to DOMINION MONARCH calling at Aden to embark U.K. passengers. She can also embark Abyssinians for Mombasa subject to C.in C. E.I, concurrence. (S.S.T.O. Egypt 1733/6 to S.N.O. Red Sea Force).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

Ammunition.	Re reserve. (C.in C. Med. 1733/6).
UPRIGHT UNIQUE.	Leave patrol p.m./7 through (route) arrangements will be made for entering Marsamxett. UNIQUE will sail at 1800A/7 through (route). (S.O.(S) Malta 2031/6 to UPRIGHT).
RORQUAL.	Visibility bad due to sand storm. Instructions if D/F bearings are required. AJAX and PERTH are probably waiting near Sanctuary. (Capt: S.1. 2207/6 to RORQUAL).
Italian W/T Activity.	Traffic on Italian ship wave today 6/2 is unusually heavy, particularly on 153 kc/s. D/F bearings are indeterminate but there is a general indication of activity to N.W. of Malta. (C.O.I.S. Alexandria 2348/6 to C.in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

FORMIDABLE.	Your 2014Z/5, not to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area. Comply with C.in C. Med., 2207/5 not to S.O. Force K. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0100/6 to C.in C. E.I.)
Operation "Composition".	C.in C. Med. 2207/5. Plan for "Composition" and let me know as soon as possible intended date. (C.in C. E.I. 0402Z/6 to S.N.O. Red Sea).
HAWKINS.	My 0402/6 and 2016/5 (not to Admiralty). I presume HAWKINS is not required for "Composition". If you agree sail her to comply with my 1440/5. (C.in C. E.I. 0414Z/6 to S.N.O. Red Sea).
ALICE MOLLER overdue.	Overdue shipping. British ALICE MOLLER Lourenco Marques to Aden. (C.in C. E.I. 0416/6 to Admty).
Persian Gulf, Contraband Control.	Your 0602/26. Remarks on preliminary discussions with M.E.W. representative. (S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0802Z/6 to C.in C. E.I.)
Convoys W.S.5.B. W.S.5.B.X.	Route from Durban. Escorts etc. (C.in C. E.I. 1141Z/6. See Operations Volume.
Italian Situation.	If collapse of I.E.A. takes place reported arrangements made with Marshal Petain for Italian Destroyers and Submarines to be interned Madagascar. (C.in C. M.E. 1110/6.)
HERMES ENTERPRISE.	Your 2351/30. In view of future projected movements I think it is better to make transfer complete. My 1258/5 refers. (C.in C. E.I. 1232Z/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Contd.)

CAPETOWN
Mogadishu.

CAPETOWN is to reconnoitre Mogadishu about sunset on 7/2. Object to ascertain whether any shipping there, but keep outside range of coast defence guns. If shipping is sighted you may test effectiveness of your fire on it but ammunition is not to be wasted. Town is not to be bombarded.
After withdrawal proceed towards Seychelles at 12 knots.
(C.in C. E.I. 1236Z/6. to CAPETOWN).

Mogadishu
Operation
"Breach".

Your 0717/4. Was position for Cucumbers (? chosen) for a particular reason of unintentionally. My 0634/28/1 para. 4 refers.
(C.in C. E.I. 1620Z/6 to S.O.Force K).

America and West Indies.

Troop
Transport.

Your 1747/5. Second alternative proposed. (D.O.D.(H) 1657/6 to R.A.3.B.S.) See Operations Volume.

T.C.9.

Date of sailing postponed.
(D.O.D.(H) 1832/6 to R.A.3.B.S. etc.)
See Operations Volume.

HUSKY
VAN KINSBERGEN.

Officer Administering Govt., of Trinidad tel. 145 of 5/2 to Col. Off. HUSKY was detailed by me to take part in operation under orders of VAN KINSBERGEN. Consider question as to whether Canadian or Dutch were captors should be immaterial.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1721/6 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

U.S.9. Departure 5/2. SYDNEY 0801Z from Fremantle for Sydney, WARREGO SWAN ORARA BATHURST 1300Z from Melbourne for Sydney, H.M. Transport MAURETANIA 1950Z from Port Phillip Bay for R/V with U.S.9.
(A.C.N.B. 0216Z/6 to C.in C. China, E.I. etc.)

WESTRALIA escorting local transport ZEALANDIA arrived Darwin 0600Z/5.
(A.C.N.B. 0644Z/6 to Admty).

AUSTRALIA. Your 1723/31/12/40. Re future employment (1st naval member 0715Z/6 to Admty).
See Operations Volume.

LELLO Q.2.Report LELLO has been sunk twelve between Barcelona and Genoa.
(N.A.Madrid, 1201/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

PLUS. — Vigo reports PLUS sailed from there night of 4/5. Destination unknown.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1033/6 to N.A.Station.

PROCIDA. — Arrival PROCIDA. 5/2.
(Valencia, T.H.I. 2010/6).

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

LELLO — C.2. Report LELLO has been sunk trading between Barcelona and Genoa.
(N.A.Madrid, 1201/6).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BRITISH PREMIER (torpedoed 24/12) Survivors found after 41 days.

My 2109/9/1. Four more survivors from BRITISH PREMIER were picked up on 3/2 in position 4.33'N., 10.33'W. (names) Men had been in a small open boat for 41 days with only one tin of biscuits and no water except provided by rain. They had no food for the last 25 days. Though in a very emaciated condition they are progressing satisfactorily and appear little affected by their experience. (C.in C. S.A., 1237W/6 to Admty).

EMPIRE CITIZEN (torpedoed 3/2).

Native Seaman requires urgent medical assistance. Should no information be received from Aircraft intend to discontinue search at 1700 on reaching 058°N., 016°W., and proceed Londonderry.
(CLARKIA, 1353/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

Your 1216/6 (? 1353/6). proceed Londonderry at best speed.
(C.in C. W.A. 1643/6 to CLARKIA).

MAPLE COURT.

Following has been read. SSSS. Position 55° 39'N., 15° 56'W. MAPLE COURT.
(Valentia W/T 1553/6).
British 3388 tons, from Boston to Preston with general cargo. (D.S. 521).

If MAPLE COURT was not in company detach portion of escort to hunt U/Boat in 055° 39'N., 015° 56'W at 1700.
(C.in C. W.A. 1741/6 to HARVESTER.).

My 1741/ . If not in contact at dark, ship detached rejoin convoy.
(C.in C. W.A. 1841/6 to HARVESTER).

MOST SECRET.

6.2.1941.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/m's reported.

1536. Am over enemy S/m in 55.16 N., 9.42 W. (1536/6).

1648. Am investigating contact in 090 Inistrahull 19.
(WESTON, 1648/6 to WHITEHALL).

1655. Admty. Message A.F. position 55° 39'N., 15° 56'W. at 1555/6 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1734/6).

1757. By D/F at 1757 B.S.T. position of enemy unit, probably U/Boat was approx. 55° 30'N., 19° 40'W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1830/6).

Mexico 30/1. Following from Navy Dept., press reports from Tepic state that S/M unknown nationality arrived LA PANOCHA near San Blas, Mexico 30/1. and obtained water. Confirmation difficult to obtain but similar reports current.
(N.A. Washington 1650/6).

Estimated U/Boat dispositions.

German.

1 between Shetlands and Faeroes.
Possibly 1 within 60 miles of 59° 30'N., 10° 30'W.
1 within 60 miles of 59° N., 19° W.
1 within 100 miles of 58° 30'N., 23° W.
1 within 40 miles of 56° N., 19° 30'W.
1 within 60 miles of 56° N., 21° 30'W.
1 about 52° N., west of 26° W.
1 near Azores.

Italian.

1 in N.W. Approaches may be south of 55° N., East of 20° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1334/6).

Submarines Attacked.

1555. U/Boat submerged Co.250 attacked.
(A/C 207 Squadron Duty X. 16 1555/6).
(To Stranraer).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.2.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

FURIOUS arrived in the Clyde today.
C. in C., Home Fleet refers in his 1909/5 to our control of Northern Waters.

British Air Activity

Bad weather caused the majority of standard patrols and convoy escorts to be cancelled today.

143 aircraft were despatched last night by Bomber Command to attack Channel Ports and aerodromes. A direct hit was obtained on the dry dock at Brest, but the dock was empty.

Coastal Command aircraft attacked shipping at Cherbourg last night. Ten direct hits were definitely observed, as well as two bursts in a shipbuilding yard. 6 Blenheims, despatched with fighter escort today to attack enemy destroyers reported near -Calais, failed to locate the enemy owing to bad visibility.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.2.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

Stragglers

Convoy C.E. 24 was attacked by some 12 dive bombers this morning off North Foreland. A/S trawler TOURMALINE was sunk. A/S trawler LADY PHILOMENA shot down one of the enemy and one was shot down by fighters.

Junction of S.L.O. and N.O.

Convoy F.N. 1. was attacked twice off the east coast today. No damage is reported.

Invasion Precautions

IONNIS M. EMBIRICOS (Greek) in Convoy S.C. 20 was bombed and disabled in the N.W. Approaches this morning.

Mining

Operation S.N. 7.

1st M.L. Squadron carried out this operation today. NIGERIA acting as close escort and RODNEY with 4 destroyers providing cover, whilst so engaged.

MENESTHEUS was damaged by a British mine in 60° 23' N., 8° 3' W., and is in tow of AGAMEMNON. No tugs are available in the Orkneys and Shetlands to tow her.

Five Hampdens laid mines off St. Nazaire last night.

Enemy Minelaying

Mines were laid in daylight today by enemy aircraft off Southwold.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Humber and Bristol Channel was suspected last night. Estimated 60 minelayers employed.

The Humber was opened soon after noon today. Six mines were exploded off Spurn Point during the day. Mines were also detonated off Milford Haven and Liverpool.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.2.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Shipping

Stragglers — Instructions for ships which straggle from O.B. and O.G. convoys in the neighbourhood of the Minches are contained in D.T.D's 1621/5.

Junction of S.L.S. and H.G. — A new scheme to facilitate the junction of S.L.S. and H.G. convoys is to begin with S.L.S. 65.

Invasion Precautions — Procedure to be adopted for ocean convoys in the event of invasion is contained in D.T.D. 1926/5.

South Atlantic

All Axis and Danish ships in Santos, Brazil, are making preparations for departure, but there are no signs of activity at other ports on the coast.

Further evidence from survivors of EURYCLOCHUS (Attacked on 29/1) on their arrival at Freetown today suggests her assailants were probably a pocket battleship and armed merchant raider.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.2.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Tunisian Territorial Waters.

Ships and aircraft may violate Tunisian territorial waters south of Susa for the purpose of attacking vessels identified as enemy. In order to avoid interference with bona fide French coastal traffic Tunisian territorial waters north of Susa are to be respected. Mines are not to be laid in Tunisian territorial waters. Identified enemy ships may be sunk at sight in all central Mediterranean waters south of 35° 46' N., whether escorted or not.

Mining of Suez Canal

Further mines were dropped in the Suez Canal today. RANEE (transport) was mined this morning; all traffic except tugs and small craft has been stopped south of Ismailia.

Misuse of Italian Hospital Ships.

There is slight ground for belief that Italian hospital ships are being used for military purposes. Next time one is met at sea she is to be boarded and examined.

Malta Raid

Malta was raided last night by 3 large formations of JU 88's which bombed aerodromes and the Dockyard.

A hangar was damaged 3 aircraft destroyed on the ground and 4 Swordfish were damaged Enemy aircraft losses were 3 certain and one probable.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.2.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

FORMIDABLE

Owing to the mining of the Suez Canal, FORMIDABLE and her screening destroyers have been ordered to Aden.

S/M Attack on B.N. 14.

Convoy B.N. 14 (troops and supplies for Suez) escorted by CALEDON, was attacked by a U-Boat p.m. 2/2 in the Red Sea.
3 underwater explosions were felt, but no damage was caused.

Ineffective control of Northern waters.

America & West Indies

Two Danish ships were seized today off Trinidad by VAN KINSBERGEN and HUSKY, by arrangement with the owner. Some disagreement occurred between the two warships as to who was the actual captor.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Rona. Minefield. Proposed amendment of Notice to Mariners.

Reference sinking of BOTUSK and EMMAPLEIN In Rona Minefield. Consider Notice to Mariners 1768 (T) altogether insufficient warning to merchant ships. Instructions in preamble might well be overlooked by ships from Atlantic proceeding through Minches. Also Rescue Ships believing BOTUSK and EMMAPLEIN to have been torpedoed proceeded into minefield and were themselves fortunate in not having been sunk. Request that Notice to Mariners may be drastically amended to deal with those points.
(A.C.O.S. 1125/5 to Admty).

Ineffective control of Northern Waters.

Admiralty 1345/12/1. Owing to shortage of trawlers and shore-based air reconnaissance our control of Northern Waters is dangerously ineffective. It is therefore important that the number of ships passing the patrol should be strictly limited both on grounds of effective control and to conceal our grave weakness.

I have no objection to a total of 6 ships monthly, but it should be regarded as maximum.
(C.in C. H.F. 1909/5 to Admty).

Suspicious objects at night.

1. It must be impressed on all Commanding Officers and O.O.W's particularly in Convoys that any suspicious object sighted at night is to be illuminated and investigated immediately and a gun fired to draw attention to it.

2. Immediately enemy identity is established a report is to be made by W/T or R/T.
(C.in C. W.A. 2003/5).

Proposed Minefield.

Request early consideration to laying of Deep Minefield N.W. of Cape Wrath.
(C.in C. W.A. 2017/5). See Mining.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy. (Contd.)

H.F. and W.A. Command. Exchange of Five Destroyers.

In order to strengthen the destroyer force fitted with T.S.D.S. in the Home Fleet the five B.Class destroyers are to be relieved by ANTHONY, ACHATES, ARROW, ANTELOPE and ACTIVE from Western Approaches.

2. The latter are to have T.S.D.S. gear fitted and in working order.

3. C.in C. W.A. and C.in C. H.F. are requested to arrange the transfer. (1st S.L. 2135/5).

Defence of United Kingdom.

DELUGE.

At 1130/5.
(D.C.1221/5).
At 2330/5.
(D.C.0017/6).

Movements.

BLUEBELL.

Am hove to off New Island owing to weather. (BLUEBELL 0246/5).

CACHALOT.

Sailed escorted by CUTTY SARK at 0420 in accordance with S. 2's 1548/31/1. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0829/5).

My 1548/31. CUTTY SARK and CACHALOT delayed in Brodick Bay by stress of weather proceed at midnight. E.T.A. R/V 0830/7. (S.2. 1821/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (Contd.)

SALOPIAN.	Sailed SALOPIAN to R/V with WORCESTERSHIRE thence to Reykjavik and N.P.41 in accordance with F.O.C. N.P. 1856/2. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1314/5).
CIRCASSIA. ATHELEMPRESS.	CIRCASSIA arrived 1215 ATHELEMPRESS arrived 1130. (F.O.Iceland 1320/5).
Northern Patrol.	Trawler Lines tonight. 3 Trawlers. (A.C.O.S. 1531/5).
Submarines.	Positions at 0800/6 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1701/5).
NEPTUNE.	Arrived Scapa 1730. (A.C.O.S. 1745/5).
FURIOUS OTTAWA.	Arrived. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1754/5).

Operations.

MINNIE DE LARRANAGA.	Arrived tugs LADY BRASSEY, ARCADIA, CAMBCOCK, Drifters NETSUKIS, YOUNG MON and S.S. MINNIE DE LARRINAGA. (V.A.Dover, 0429/5).
Operation P.X.	Operation P.X. para.14 This will be done by aircraft of 16 Group. (C.in C. Nore, 1101/5 to EREBUS, D.21).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Contd.)

Operation postponed 24 hours.
(C.in C. Nore, 1409/5).

Northern Patrol.

Cancel my 1115/20/1. Direction of patrols is to be south westward during daylight.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1145/5 to Northern Patrol.)

Operation N.C.

Will be carried out. Zero hour 0415/6.
(V.A.Dover 1514/5).

SUNFISH 2 attacks on M/V's.

SUNFISH reports. At 1353/30 fired 4 torpedoes at 4500 ton tanker in 58° 11 mins. N., 8° 32 mins. E., range 4000 yards. Attack unsuccessful. At 1131/2, fired 4 torpedoes at laden merchant vessel 2000 tons in 58°02' N., 6° 46' E., range 1200 yards. One torpedo ran on surface. Ship took avoiding action. Attack unsuccessful. SUNFISH unsuccessfully counter attacked by trawler.
(F.O.S. 1859/5).

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

My 2144/4. Add R1 - R2 - FUGLE.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0102/5).

My 2236/8/1. Patrol FUGLE amend positions as follows. Add Patrol R1. and R2. as follows:
(C.in C. Rosyth 0326/5 to Admty).
(See Summaries Folder).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

No flying by number 18 goup possible at present owing to weather.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 0920/5).

PICKS II.
(Bombed 5/2.)

Your 0908/4 and C.in C. Western Approaches 0016/5. Regret weather unsuitable for flying this morning. Will carry out H.F.X. at 1400/5 if weather permits.
(R.A.N.A.S. Roborough (Plymouth) 1010/5 to Capt: D.S.)

A/S Air Escort for S.N.7. cancelled.

My 1006/4. A/S air escort for today cancelled, aircraft required for other duties. You will probably sight Sunderland, Whitleys, and Hudson proceeding to their patrol during day.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0826/5 to R.A.M.L.)

FURIOUS.

Intend flying off 2 Skuas to Prestwick at 1615. Please warn.
(FURIOUS 1351/5 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

Enemy Air Activity.

WAZIRISTAN (Bombed 2/2).

Aircraft report WAZIRISTAN in 061° 20'N., 011° 56'W at 1147/4, hove to, drifting downwind.
(C.in C. W.A. 0105/5 to BANDIT).

Request aircraft assistance to locate WAZIRISTAN. Am remaining in vicinity.
(BANDIT 1155/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

My 1735. Swell at present too heavy.
LORD MIDDLETON, making an attempt.
DOUGLAS 1931/5 to C.in C. H.F.)

DIONE II. (Bombed 3/2.)

Your 1630/4. No further information. A/S escort in proceeding to stand by to assist you.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0145/5 to ASSURANCE, CAPE MARIATO).

BARON RENFREW. (Bombed 28/1).

TENACITY reports BARON RENFREW adrift at 0100, wind S.S.E. 08, conditions very adverse.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0157/5).

(Convoy C.E.24.)
TYRRHALLEN Sunk.

Report forthwith whether another tug required. ST. OLAVES will be returning for coal today Wednesday.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0415/5 to TENACITY).

Proceed with all despatch to assist TENACITY.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0925/5 to SEAMAN).

Tugs off Dover.

Sailed SEAMAN.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1113/5).

Convoy F.E.1.

Cancel my 0855. Proceed immediately to assist TENACITY.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1525/5).

Cancel my 1113. SEAMAN returned to Cambeltown for shelter.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1601/5).

Convoy C.E.24.

Convoy BOSOM being shadowed by one enemy A/C bearing 300° distance 12 miles, in 51° 23'N., 1 31'E.
(BLENCATHRA, 0926/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Help in 51° 26'N., 1° 27'E.
(Rosyth W/T 0940/5).

Fighter aircraft have been despatched.
(Nore W/T 0943/5).

BLENCATHRA reports that during attack by dive bombers on C.E.Convoy at about 0950 today one enemy aircraft was shot down by fighters and one by H.M.T. LADY PHILOMENA.
(C.in C. Nore 1521/5).

(Convoy C.E.24.) TOURMALINE Sunk.

Following has been made. It is possible that S.P's and C.B's from H.M.T. TOURMALINE sunk in 138° 3/4 mile Hope Buoy today may still be floating. All ships and shore authorities are to be warned to keep a good look out for these.
V.A.Dover is requested to take necessary action. 2236/5/2 ends.
(C.in C. Nore 2318/5).

Tugs off Dover.

Fighters have been sent to assistance of SERGEANT (Two tugs escorted by one trawler off Dover).
(Nore 1241/5).

Convoy F.N.1.

Help convoy RADIO in 51°50'N., 1° 35'E.
(SOUTHDOWN 1416/5).

No hits. Gone East.
(Convoy RADIO 1425/5).

Help in 52° 13'N., 1° 56'E.
(SOUTHDOWN 1745/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Fighter aircraft have been despatched.
(Nore 1756/5).

Help Convoy F.N.1. S. of Tyne in 52°19'N., 1° 56'E.
(Convoy 1817/5).

Ramsgate bombed.

At 2110/5th. 4 H.E. bombs were dropped in open land at Cliffsend Ramsgate. No casualties. Electric cable telephone wires and 8 bungalows slightly damaged.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate, 2352/5).

Mining.

A/C Minelaying.

AP/809/5/2. For tonight.
(H.Q.C.C. 1130/5 to 16 Group, N.Coates).

Humber.

Humber open. Movement restricted to swept Channel. Ships should arrive in the Afternoon as far as possible.
(F.O. Humber, 1234/5).

KONIGSBERG PREUSSEN.

(German) Reported (B.2) mined in Convoy off West Jutland on 1/2. Report unconfirmed.
(N.A.Stockholm 1644/5 to D.N.I.)

Spurn Point.

The following six mines exploded today. Spontaneous explosions observed at 2255/4 in 003° Spurn Point Lighthouse 0.4 miles and at 0047/5 in 120° Spurn Point Lighthouse 0.2 miles.
(F.O. Humber 2018/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Milford Haven.

Three ground mines self detonated (positions) (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1731/5).

Parachute Mines off Southwold.

2 Parachute mines dropped in 52° 16'N., 1° 56'E.
(SOUTHDOWN 1752/5).

My 1752. Second aircraft probably laid further mines 2 miles to northward.
(SOUTHDOWN 1810/5).

Proposed new Deep Minefield.

My 1810/3. Aircraft probably laid mines to port of swept Channel somewhat to the northward and west of last position.
(SOUTHDOWN 1830/5).

Operation R.A.

Report received that enemy plane has been dropping magnetic mines vicinity No.9 Buoy.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1858/5 to C.in C. Nore).

MENESTHEUS.

(Minelayer). My position 060° 23'N., 008° 03' W. In tow of AGAMEMNON. Main engine defect. Request tug to tow to port Z.A. Intend to pass through 60° N., 008° 12'W. thence 142° to Butt of Lewis speed of advance 4 knots
(MENESTHEUS 1800/5 to A.C.O.S.)

MENESTHEUS 1800/5. No tugs are available in Orkneys and Shetlands area.
(A.C.O.S. 2008/5 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

S/Boat.

S/Boat encountered in position 18 miles south of Saint Catherines Point.
(CHESTERFIELD 0215/5.)
(C.in C. Portsmouth 0320/5 and 0340/5 to VANOC, etc.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Liverpool.

At 1355/4 and 1358/4 two Mines exploded by S.A. 2 miles S. 60° West Bar Light Vessel. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1840/5).

My 1848/4 for 285° read 227° . Mine report to 1800/5. One detonated by S.A. gear 244° Bar Light Vessel 1 mile. One self detonated between Queens Channel Pillar Buoy and Bar Light Vessel.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2102/5).

Proposed new Deep Minefield.

Request early consideration to laying a deep minefield (position), to cover northerly routed convoy track.
(C.in C. W.A. 2017/5 to Admty).

Operation E.A.

29. TEVIOT BANK is to remain at anchor at Methil until finally sailing.
TEVIOT BANK escorted by INTREPID and IMPULSIVE is to sail from Methil at 1600/6 and proceed to Humber so as to arrive before dark/7th.

D.20 is requested to sail INTREPID and IMPULSIVE so as to R/V with TEVIOT BANK accordingly.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2234/5).

Enemy Intelligence.

By D/F at 0008/5 S.T. bearings of enemy unit were as follows.

Fix indicates the Brest area. Frequently is usually associated with small craft, but not necessarily so.
(D.D.I.C. 0101/5.)

E/Boat.

E/Boat encountered in position 15 miles South Saint Catherines Point.
(CHESTERFIELD 0215/5.)
(C.in C. Portsmouth 0336/5 and 0550/5 to VANOC, etc.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. (Contd.)

HIPPER Cruiser.

German Cruiser ADMIRAL HIPPER Class last reported at Brest believed to have sailed. Reconnaissance shows that she is not in either Bordeaux, La Rochelle or Cherbourg. (F.O.C.N.A.S. 0937/5).

Transmission heard.

Transmissions heard on P.V. one at 1200/5 bearing 075° from 054° (20' or 48') N. 005° 27' (?) W. Transmissions were clearly audible but were too weak to show on ammeter.
(WORCESTERSHIRE 1220/5 to F.O.C.N.P.)

My 1220. Bearing at 1240 from 054° 55'N., 005° 28' W. was 090° very approx. and at 1405 from position 055° 12'N., 005° 20'W it was 170° .
(WORCESTERSHIRE 1410/5).

Denmark.

Reports as to handing over of Danish T/B's and Minesweepers to Germany with N.I.D. comments.
(N.A. Stockholm 1644/5 to D.N.I.)

Cancel my 141⁰ as these were not genuine 66 centimetre transmissions. But my 1220 stands.
(WORCESTERSHIRE 1709/5).

5 Destroyers.

In confirmation of telephone message. Three Destroyers bearing 120° close to French Coast at 1545, steering East.
(V.A.Dover, 1406/5 to Admty).

P.N. P.S. Cancellation.

If an P.N. or P.S. convoy is cancelled, the sailing of the additional escort from Harwich will also automatically be cancelled and the escort programme remain otherwise unchanged.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1126/5).

P.N.A.

List.
(N.O.O.C. Thames 1149/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. ~~(Contd.)~~

Coastal Convoys.

F.S.S. 50 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0926/5).

C.W.25. My 2120/4. (Intend sailing C.W.25 Friday 7/2) Timetable at 7 knots. Care to be taken to keep convoy well closed up when passing through the Downs.
Escorts destroyers BLENCATHRA, BERKELEY.
M/S Trawlers ACACIA, ASH, DEODAR, WALNUT BAY.
M.B.B.V's HASLEMERE, ROEBUCK, FRATTON, ASTRAL, MAMMOUTH, GATINAIS.
M.L's 171, 116, 118, 119, 113, 120, 117, Chasseur 43. Will join convoy from Ramsgate and Dover. Number of M/V's in convoy 16.
(C.in C. Nore 1050/5).

O.B.282. Sailed PICOTTEE to overtake O.B.282.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1055/5).

F.N.1. Sailed 0920/5. 28 Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1117/5).

E.N.68.
W.N.81. Act as additional A/A Escort to E.N.68 sailing at 0800/7. After passing Dunnet Head proceed to Scapa. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail GLEANS to join W.N.81 due Duncansby Head 1100/9. Code word for E.N.68 PADDLE and W.N.81 MATERIAL.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1107/5).

F.N. F.S. Cancellation. If an F.N. or F.S. convoy is cancelled, the sailing of the additional escort from Harwich will also automatically be cancelled and the escort programme remain otherwise unchanged.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1126/5).

F.N.1. List.
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1142/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

10.M/V's. 10 Merchant Vessels. A/S Trawlers.
SAINT CATHAN, CAPE COMORIN from Needles to Dartmouth E.T.A.0900.
(C.in C. W.A. 1205/5).

F.S.2. All ships have arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Thames. 1211/5).

C.B.281. Disperse in 020° CO'West.
(C.in C. W.A. 1229/5 to WITCH for Cmdre. MONTGOMERY, WILD SWAN.)

8 M/V's. Your 2004/3 and 1639/4 arrived.
≠ (8 M/V's and escort sailing 1700/4).
(C.in C. Portsmouth). (1238/5).

10 M/V's. Portsmouth night movements 5/6th.
A/S Trawlers ST. CATHAN, CAPE COMORIN, H.M.S. VULCAN and 10 M/V's Needles to Dartmouth, leave 1800/5 due 0900/6.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1323/5).

W.N.79. Convoy W.N.79 has scattered during snow storm my position 10 miles west of Dunnet Head with one ship one escort, waiting remainder which are not yet in sight. Visibility 10 miles.
(JASON 1330/5 to A.C.O.S.)

W.N.79. Dispersed during heavy snow-fall and storms awaiting Dunnet Head for their appearance with 3 ships, these 3 are now proceeding independently through Pentland Firth.
With your approval suggest I (wait?) for rest of convoy 20 ships (until arrival?).
(STELLA POLARIS, 1500/5 to A.C.O.S.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

W.N.79 anchored Thurso Bay.
(STELLA POLARIS 1912/5 to A.C.O.S.)

C.E.25. Southend 5/2 arrival from Portsmouth with convoy C.E.25 H.M.T.LADY PHILOMENA, H.M.S. BRITTANY.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1415/5).

E.N.67. My position at 1410/5, 245° Buchan Ness 10 miles have lost touch with Commodore of E.N.67. I have six ships. Request instructions.
(ULLSWATER 1451/5 to C.in C. W.A.)

C.E.24. All Merchant ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1500/5).

F.N.1. List. (3 ships).
(N.C.S.O. Harwich, 1503/5).

F.S.4. Sailed 1430/5th February. 6 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1612/5).

W.N.79. 000° Dunnet Head 3 miles at 1425/5).
(A.C.O.S. 1618/5).

F.S.4. List and destinations.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1709/5).

F.N.99. List and Destinations.
F.N.100. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1711/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

F.N.1. — 15 ships from Humber joining at 62 D Buoy all for North of Blyth except 8 ships. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1712/5).

F.S.4. — 2 ships from Humber joining at 62 D Buoy. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1714/5) (C.in C. Rosyth 2155/5 to HASTINGS, WALLACE).

B.H.X.104. — Destinations. (D.T.D. 1807/5 to N.C.S.O. Aultbea and 1808/5 to F.O.I.C's Cardiff and Milford Haven).

E.N.U.66. — Arrived less BRITISH STATESMAN and EMPIRE CARIBU and PENTRIDGE HILL. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1830/5).

O.B.283. O.B.285. congestion. — 5 ships already in Loch Ewe and 7 more due ex E.N.67 have been crowded out of O.B.283 and unless otherwise ordered must be held until 13/2 for O.B. 285 when ships ex E.N.68 and E.N.69 may also cause further congestion and delay. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1948/5 to Admty).

F.N.99. — Five fishing trawlers from Humber sailed astern of F.N.99. (C.in C. Rosyth 2156/5 to HOLDERNESS, WOOLSTON.)

F.S.3. F.S.4. — Rosyth 5/2/1941. Departures. MEYNELL to overtake F.S.3. HASTINGS and WALLACE with F.S.4. (C.in C. Rosyth 2315/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

U/Boat Rocket alarm.

The use of two white rockets to denote an enemy submarine in the vicinity is to be extended to Coastal convoys and the restriction on firing white rockets for this purpose within 15 miles of the Coasts of the U.K. is withdrawn.

Admiralty message 631A, 24/12 and A.M.S.I. 279 should be amended accordingly.
(D.T.D. 2017/5 "A" Message).

Ocean Convoys.

O.G.52.

Sailed BELMONT and VANQUISHER escorts for O.G.C.52. and O.G.O.52 respectively.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1146/5).

Sailed SCARBOROUGH, GENTAIN, WHITEHALL and WINCHELSEA escorting O.G.52.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1905/5).

Invasion.

O.G.52. sailed 1750/5 10 ships 7½ knots Commodore E.W.Leir in S.S. ARDENLA for Gibraltar 3 ships with kites.
(N.C.S.O. Liverpool, 1820/5).
List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1821/5).

H.X.108.

1531/5. S.S. BLACK TERN carrying aeroplanes.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1532/5 to Admty).

S.L.63.

Meet. (list)
(C.In C. W.A. 1841/5 to GEORGETOWN, ANTELOPE, ANTHONY, ACHATES, FLEETWOOD, HEATHER, LADY MADELINE, AYRESHIRE.)

Reports.

H.G.52.

Extract from convoy sailing telegram as amended by Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1942/5 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

H.X.104.

The attention of Commodores of H.X.104 and B.H.X. 104 is to be called to Q Z X 170, 233, 265.
(C.in C. W.A. 2303/5 to LINCOLN, CHURCHILL.)

Routes for Stragglers.

Ships which, through inability to maintain convoy speed for any reason, straggle and lose touch with OB and OG convoys (A) before reaching 8° West if routed through the Minches or (B) before reaching 10° West if routed outside the Minches, are to return to a U.K. port. Such ships should proceed to Loch Ewe or Oban, whichever is the nearest, for further orders.

In view of the volume of traffic in the approaches to the North Channel from the Minches and from the Westward, these ships should burn dimmed navigation lights.

All ships in OB and OG Convoys are to be provided with the necessary return routes in special envelopes. The above is to be explained to Masters at Convoy Conferences.
(D.T.D. 1621/5 to N.C.S.O's.)

Invasion.

Procedure for Ocean Convoys in event of invasion.
(D.T.D. 1926/5 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)
See Operations Volume.

S.L.S. and H.G. Convoys.

Cancel my 1903/1/1 and 2026/31/1. Following scheme to assist junction of S.L.S. and H.G. convoys will be adopted commencing with S.L.S.65.
(D.T.D. 1937/5 to C.in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
See Operations Volume.

Reports.

In order that Admiralty can maintain full information regarding Ocean Convoys it is requested that all signals made to them or their escorts at sea may be repeated to Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1946/5 to C.in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Military Convoys.

W.S.6. Escort arrangements.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1624/5).

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

Raft and Wreckage Sighted.

My 1725/4. Sighted damaged raft and scattered wreckage in 058° 24'N., 023° 08'W. at 1600. Wide area searched without further result.
(CLARKIA 0600/5).

POLITICIAN.

(British 7939 tons). Abandoning ship. Making water. Engineroom flooded.
(Port Patrick Radio 0739/5).

Ashore south of Barra Island pounding heavily.
(Plymouth W/T 0822/5).

Which side of Barra Islands, East or West.
(ABELIA 1020/5 to Admty).

Cannot make West side Barra Island daylight will investigate. Distress indefinite did not state East or West.
(ABELIA 1045/5).

Sailed SALVONIA to assist.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1113/5).

Your 1020. Last known position of POLITICIAN, South of Barra Island. Tug and A/S Trawler are closing.
(C.in C. W.A. 1157/5 to ABELIA).

POLITICIAN Ashore Barra Sound.
Engine room flooded. Salvage possible if assistance of tugs and pumps sent immediately.
(WICK Radio 1306/5).

EVELYN ROSE.

(A/P Trawler) Sailed 0940/5 from Sheerness, in tow of tug ST. CLEARS for Harland and Wolff Yard Wollwich. (:ST OLAVES)
(Commodore, Sheerness, 1039/5).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS. (Greek 3734 tons) Bombed and disabled in 55° 41'N., 12° 26'W. approx. at 10 a.m. Have wounded.
(Valentia Radio 1123/5) (IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS 1218/5).

If contact has not been made with DIONE II proceed to assistance of JOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1237/5 to ASSURANCE, CAPE MARIATO).

PAYNTER. (A/S Trawler.) Reports having been in collision with unknown vessel at 0310/30/1 in 55° 11'N., 05° 26'W.

PAYNTER slightly damaged but proceeding accordingly to schedule
(N.O.I.C. Leith 1644/5).

MERCHANT ROYAL. (British 5008 tons). Require immediate assistance off Duncansby Head.
(MERCHANT ROYAL, Recd. Scapa 1625/5).

Your 1644. I intercepted the S.O.S. and proceeded at 16.45. E.T.A. Duncansby Head 1730. Convoy scattered during snow and it is believed 3 ships passed through Pentland Firth. Escorts are sending remainder when found into Thurso Bay.
(JASON 1709/5 to A.C.O.S.)

Proceed to assistance of MERCHANT ROYAL 5 miles North West of Duncansby Head. Steering gear out of action. Ship was in convoy W.N.74 and 2 trawlers. JASON has been ordered to close by A.C.O.S.
(C.in C. H.F. 1806/5 to AURORA, JASON).

MERCHANT ROYAL has made temporary repairs to sterring gear and is steering south east slowly. Weather at present too rough to take her in tow. Her position is 1550 Duncansby Head 5 miles.
(AURORA 2103/5 to A.C.O.S.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

5.2.1941.
Wednesday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

FAME.	Arrived Sheerness for Chatham 1935/5 in tow of tugs. (C.in C. Nore, 2140/5).
EMPIRE BREEZE.	(British 7960 tons). Ashore. (Cullercoates Radio. Recd. 2217/5).
	Ashore Bondicar Rocks. Needs immediate assistance. (Cullercoates Radio 2324/5).
ALBERT C.FIELD.	(British 1764 tons). Ashore south of Flamborough. Requires immediate assistance. (Humber Radio 2248/5).

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 41.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

AJAX
PONCELET
repatriees.

Exchange of British Service personnel and merchant seamen in French Africa against survivors of French S/M's AJAX and PONCELET seems likely to succeed but French Admiralty have shown anxiety about C.O. of PONCELET, Lieut. Cmdr. De. Sausaine, who is they understand in U.K. What shall I reply? (N.A. Madrid, 1047/5, to Admty.)

North Atlantic.

S.L.C.I.

Gibraltar 3/2, 0630, arrival DUNEDIN JONQUIL, GERANIUM, VELOX, VIDETTE, escorting steamships KENYA and SOBIESKY. (S.O.I. Gib., 0936/5, to Admty etc.)

TUNA
OTUS.

Position of submarines at 0600/6, and movements for 24 hours. TUNA on patrol off Ponta Delgada. OTUS 039° 45' N. 024° west proceeding on the surface to 041° north 028°, 30' west thence course 70° speed 10 knots. (F.O.C.N.A.,1000/5.)

Air Report.

X.6811. Daily Summary Operations. (200 Group, 1700/5.)

GRETE
ROMO.

Danish S.S. GRETE and ROMO at Valencia, now expected to agree secretly to be captured. Probably sail in ten days or two weeks. If necessary could you stage capture of both off Valencia or if not possible off Cartagena outside territorial waters? First ship has little coal and may have to be towed to Gibraltar. (N.A Madrid 1914/5, to S.O.I., Gibraltar.)

/SANTAREM.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. Contd.

SANTAREM, suspicious passenger.

S.S. SANTAREM (Brazilian) reported sailed from Lisbon at 0430/5, for South America. Frau Ochmeeberg, 3rd class passenger on board believed to be carrying mails which are to be removed if ship is encountered. (F.O.C.N.A., 2317/5, to N.A. Stn.) Cancelled by D.E.W.D, 1207/6, See 6/1.

South Atlantic.

START POINT.

Overdue shipping, START POINT Clyde departure 11/1 due Freetown 1/2 has not arrived. (S.O.I.Freetown, 0904/5.)

Force Z.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1650/4. Last position Q, received by C. in C. South Atlantic was 035° 40' N. 022° 40' W., in C. in C. W.A.'s 1049/29/1. Last time of arrival Q1700 B.S.T. 5/2 in C. in C. W.A. 1325/31/1. Request early information of alteration to this information as position given by F.O.C.N.A, conflicts with that given by C. in C. W.A. C.S.1, has my 1159/3 and my 1255/3. (C. in C. S.A., 1047N/5, to C. in C. W.A., Admty.)

Your 1047/5, estimated position of Force Z at 1200 Zone plus 1, 7/2, will be 28° 00' N. 20° 30' W, Position Q is 35° 40' N, 22° 40' W. (D.O.D.(F) 1043/5, to C. in C.S.A.)

/Santos.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

Santos Enemy Shipping, DRESDEN BABITONGA.	All Axis and Danish ships in Santos making preparations for departure. On 4/2 I informed Brazillian Chief of Naval Staff that this activity is probably connected with ADMIRAL SCHEER presence between Natal and Dakar and stressed our belief that DRESDEN and BABITONGA whose internment was requested eleven to twelve months ago are supply ships (N.A. Monte Video, 1216/5, S.O.I., Monte Video, 1314Z/5 to Admty., S.O.I. Freetown, 2043N/5 to Admty.)
SS AFRICA MARU	My 1705/4. Union Government prepared to hold ship 2 days longer but are asking reason. Ship cannot now reach port mentioned in C. in C., East Indies' 0804/2 in time to interfere even if sailing at once and direct. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1230/5 to Admty.)
TUNISIA LISBETH MADURA	My 1113/3, Delete TUNISIA LISBETH and MADURA which have arrived at Freetown. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1324/5)
Convoy W.S. 6.	Your 0009/4. Re escort by CATHAY, CANTON or CHITRAL. Escort arrangements. (D.O.D. (P) to C. in C's S.A. E.I., H.F., 1624/5) (D.O.D. (P) 1834/5 to C. in C., S.A.,) See Operations Volume.
EMPRESS OF CANADA Defect	H.M.T. EMPRESS OF CANADA sailed for U.K. direct 5/2. Paravane gear now out of action unable to repair owing to congestion in the port. Delayed owing to

/engine.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

EMPRESS OF CANADA defect. engine repairs 28 hours and 12 hours on account of weather. Following passengers transferred to STRATHALLAN. (S.S.T.O. Capetown, 1637/5, to Admty.)

Employment of "Vees". Admiralty's C138/2 (D) 2. When allocating Vees request consideration may be given to following. Most important shall have transmission and reception owing to difficulty in using L.F. on South Atlantic Station. Also suitability for service in tropics with sufficient fans and refrigeration. Endurance an important question. (C. in C.S.A. 1923N/5, to F.O.C.N.A.)

ALCANTARA. QUEEN OF BERMUDA. My 1031/22, to R.A.S.A.D. Intended ALCANTARA carries out working up and gunnery practices Freetown for approximately ten days then proceeds to S.A.Division, S.A.Station, to relieve QUEEN OF BERMUDA probably arriving (date) (C. in C. S.A, 2111N/5, to R.A.S.A.D.)

CAPETOWN CASTLE. My 1744/27/1 reads "CAPETOWN CASTLE" arriving Durban in W.S.S.B. reports that she has on board approximately 1000 tons maize which could not be discharged during Turn-round in U.K., and which Master considers important should be discharged in South Africa. Request confirmation that discharge can be carried out during stay of convoy in Durban and if so that you arrange accordingly".
2. For Duban read Capetown.
3. Request report in view of 1321/2, from C. in C. S.A.(D. of S.T. 2118/5, to N.O.I.C, Capetown.) Reply See 1155/7.

/EURYLOCHUS.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

EURYLOCHUS, (sunk 29/1.), details of raider.

Your 0054/1/2. BULOLO arrived Freetown 5/2, Report on evidence received from survivors of EURYLOCHUS as follows - no definite conclusion possible from evidence received but probable pocket battleship accompanied by armed merchant raider. One ship was very much larger than other. (Evidence on specific points.)Both ships fired, EURYLOCHUS was hit twelve times by large ship and number of times by smaller ship, unlikely that heavy armament was used possibly secondary armament by large ship and similar by small ship.(C. in C. S.A., 2305/5, to Admty.)

Darkening ship.

Request your remarks on para. 1 of C. in C. East Indies 0658/3, and whether you consider that in Approaches to Durban and to the Cape from the Eastward on the South Atlantic Station sailing of ships fully darkened is desirable or whether any limit from either port should be laid down. (C. in C. S.A., 2355/5, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Mediterranean.

Tunis, use of territorial waters.

South of Lat. 35° 46' North, Tunisian Territorial Waters may be violated.
(a) by submarines and surface ships for the purpose of attacking at sight any vessel identified as enemy.
(b) by aircraft for the purpose of attacking at sight any vessel of whose enemy character you are satisfied. Particularly desired to avoid interference with bona fide French Coastal traffic, and for this reason:-
(a) Tunisian Territorial Waters North of Lat.35° 46' North must be respected.
(b) Mines should NOT be laid in Tunisian Territorial Waters.
(1. S.L. 0202/5, to C. in C. Med.,etc.)

Operation B.S. para. 23 to 26 and Admiralty 0202/5. Presume S/Ms and A/C can now sink at sight in all Central Mediterranean Waters South

/of Latitude.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 41.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

	of latitude 035° 46' North any ship whose enemy character is established whether these vessels are escorted or not.(V.A. Malta, 1015/5, to C. in C. Med.)
	Your 1015/5. Yes.(C. in C. Med., 1014/5.) Informing S/M's on Patrol. (V.A. Malta, 1755/5.)
	Reference V.A. Malta's 1015/5. South of latitude 35° 46' N every enemy merchant ship may until further orders be assumed to be a military transport or auxiliary and sunk at sight. (Hd. of M., 2341/5, to C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, A.O.C., Med.)
Enemy Unit.	P.c.and s. of enemy unit at 0905, G.M.T. was 035° 04' N. 013° 23' E. 270° 10' knots. (V.A.Malta, 1035/5, to S/M's on Patrol.)
Suez Canal Mines.	Your 1443/4. Have sufficient watchers been detailed to watch the Canal so that the position of every mine which is laid is accurately known?(1st S.L 1107/5, to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal.) Reply. See 1317/5.
Malta Air Raid.	Operational Summary No. 240 up to 1200 hrs. 5.2.41, Malta. Night 4/5th, 3 large formations Ju.88's bombed Halfar, Luqa, Kalafrana, and dockyard, destroying 1 hangar at Luqa and damaging buildings there and at Halfar. 1 Gladiator and Swordfish destroyed on ground but no casualties.

/3 Ju. 88's.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 41.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Malta Air Raid.

5 Ju.88's destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, by our fighters and A.A. defences.(H.Q.R.A.F., M.E.,1144/5.)

War Material for Turkey.

Your 1346/1,Re additional war material for Turks.(N.A.,Angora, 1221/5. to Admty.)

RANEE Mined, Suez. Canal.

My 1903/4. Transport RANEE mined in canal at K.m.83, 0345/5, Ship is aground aft on Africa side bow waterborne in middle of canal. Last mine exploded in this section was p.m./1, since when section has been repeatedly swept and 23 ships have passed in safety. All traffic except tugs and small craft has been stopped south of Ismailia. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal,1257/5, to Admty, etc.)

Dive-Bomber Attacks, ILLUSTRIOUS SOUTHAMPTON.

In view of measures taken to fit P.A.C.'s in Mediterranean Fleet aircraft carriers it would be appreciated if the following further information with regard to D/B. attacks on ILLUSTRIOUS and SOUTHAMPTON could be forwarded.(D.T.S.D. 1336/5, to C. in C. Med.)

Genoa, reported closing.

Have you any information concerning the reported closing of the port of Genoa, to all commercial traffic? It is believed port has been closed for about a week and Swiss Authorities persist in this opinion despite Italian denials. (D.N.I. 1428/5, to N.A.'s Madrid, Lisbon.)

Air Report.

Operational Summary. 240 up to 1200 hours 5/2/41. (Egypt and Sudan) No naval items.(H.Q.,R.A.F.,M.E.,1455/5.)

/Malta Air.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Malta Air Raid Damage.

Combined Services report Malta up to 1700 hours 5/2. All times G.M.T, Ref. my I.88. 4/2. They don't like us. Assessment Government property damaged completed as follows:- (details) Reconnaissance Reports. (H.Q., R.A.F., Med., 1710/5.)

UPRIGHT
UTMOST
USK
TRUANT
TETRARCH.

Disposition. Operation B.5, appendix one two - 033° 32' 012° (corrupt group) - 333° - 51" - 063° - 60 275 submarines are not to be attacked unless their hostile identity is unquestionably proved. (Capt. S.I, 1855/5, to S/M's on Patrol.)

FORMIDABLE.

C. in C. Med. 2207/5. See Operations Volume - East Indies.

Mines, Suez Canal.

Following information so far collected concerning mines in canal area. (details.)

14 mines accounted for. 7 or 8 exploded with red polarity by LL and D.W.I, sweep after covering water many times. The first mines dropped 30/1, successively mined 3rd 4th and 5th/2. (C. in C. Med., 2315/5, to Admty.)

SIS NO Suez Canal area 1707/5 See East Indies.

East Indies.

CALCUTTA.

CARLISLE.

Admty. 0130/2, and my 0812/2. Re employment and refit. (C. in C. E.I., 07082/5 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

/Treaty.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

Enemy Unit.	Position of German surface unit by D/F on 12700 kc/s at 1843 G.M.T./4, was within 150 miles of position 003° South 048° East. 8 stations took bearings. (C. in C. E.I., 0723Z/5, to E. I. Sqdn.)
BANKURA.) BAMORA.) BARPETA.) BARJORA.)	Dates of arrival Aden. (S.S.T.O,India, 0915/5, to C. in C. E.I.)
Air Strength.	Re scale of Air Attack on Eastern India. (Air H.Q., India, to Air Ministry, 0048/5.)
B.N.14.	Convoy arrival telegram B.N. 14 Port Sudan portion arrived 5/2, OBSERVOR ALCYONE ELPIS KRONVIKEN.(N.O.I.C.Port Sudan, 1156Z/5, to Admty.)
B.S.14.	Convoy sailing telegram (1) B.S.14, Port Sudan, portion, (2) 0300Z/5,(3) Port Sudan 080 deg. 30 miles 0800Z/5. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1200Z/5.)
F.A.A. on the Station.	C. in C. E.I. 1256Z/5. See Operations Volume.
FORMIDABLE.	Your 1926/4. (Whether FORMIDABLE proceed. No. (C. in C. Med. 1610/5, to C. in C. E. Indies.)
FORMIDABLE. JUNO,GRIFFIN.	FORMIDABLE JUNO and GRIFFIN have been ordered to Aden. (C. in C. E.I, 1740Z/5, to Admty. Date of FORMIDABLE passing Canal, and proposed date of her leaving Aden. (C. in C. Med. to C. in C. E.I., 2207/5.) See Operations Volume.

/Suez Canal.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

Suez Canal Mines.

Your 2203 Feb. 4th. Unexploded mines type D. Existence of mines not known. Mine laid about 0500/ 30/1. Area swept 2/2 at 0830 by one D.W.I.4 run red, at 1245 by two D.W.I.5. run blue, at 1415 by two D.W.I.5 run red.
(1707/5 S.B.N.O. Suez Canal).

B.N.14. attacked by U/B, 2/2.

Ref. Bari radio reports claiming Submarine obtained seven hits on Red Sea Convoy on 3/2, CALEDON reports at least three underwater explosions felt between 2210 and 2230z/2. No damage no splashes. All ships B.N.14 mustered. Position was about C16° North. Intend not to deny Italian reports as it is better they should not learn attacks must be pressed home. BALUCHISTAN straggled from B.N.14. Last seen 1600z/3. (C. in C. E.I., 1804z/5, to Admty.)

Force T. SHROPSHIRE.

My 1016/3. Force T expects to arrive Mombasa 0800Z/9. SHROPSHIRE has left a total of 60 ratings sick at Durban. (C. in C.E.I., 2008Z/5, to Admty etc.-)

Operations "Canvas" "Composition".

Request I may now use Force "K" for either or both operations "CANVAS" and "COMPOSITION."(C. in C. E.I.,2014Z/5, to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

VAN KINSBERGEN.

Leave Trinidad p.m./8, and visit St. Martin and St. Eustatius, proceeding thence to Port Castries St. Lucia so as to arrive 12/2. Then await further orders.(C. in C.A.W.I., 1022/5. to VAN KINSBERGEN.)

/CHRISTIAN.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

Suez Canal Mines.

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Ref. Bari radio reports claiming Submarine obtained seven hits on Red Sea Convoy on 3/2, CALEDON reports at least three underwater explosions felt between 2210 and 2230z/2. No damage no splashes. All ships B.N.14 mustered. Position was about C16° North. Intend not to deny Italian reports as it is better they should not learn attacks must be pressed home. BALUCHISTAN straggled from B.N.14. Last seen 1600z/3. (C. in C. E.I., 1804z/5, to Admty.)

Force T. SHROPSHIRE.

My 1016/3. Force T expects to arrive Mombasa 0600Z/9. SHROPSHIRE has left a total of 60 ratings sick at Durban. (C. in C.E.I., 2008Z/5, to Admty etc.-)

Operations "Canvas" "Composition".

Request I may now use Force "K" for either or both operations "CANVAS" and "COMPOSITION."(C. in C. E.I.,2014Z/5, to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

VAN KINSBERGEN.

Leave Trinidad p.m./6, and visit St. Martin and St. Eustatius, proceeding thence to Port Castries St. Lucia so as to arrive 12/2. Then await further orders.(C. in C.A.W.I., 1022/5. to VAN KINSBERGEN.)

/CHRISTIAN.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

CHRISTIAN HOLM SCANDIA.	Danish tankers. Intercepted by VAN KINSBERGEN a.m./5, and being taken to Trinidad in prize. (D.O.R., 6/2.)
H.X.103.	Your 1936/4. Commodore H.X.103 in receipt of following 4 messages. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1125/5, to Admty.)
PORTADOC.	In St. John N.B. due to sail shortly for Sierra Leone. Crew have given notice that they wish to be discharged and will not sail in ship. Request early information whether any action can be taken under existing British Regulations. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1126/5, to Admty.)
Route to America.	Your 1807/3, (Alternative route to America.) concur. (D.T.D.1206/5, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
Troop Transport.	Re escort by ROYAL SOVEREIGN and RAMILLIES. (D.O.D.(H), 1249/5, to R.A.3.B.S), and reply B.S.3., 1747/5.) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

ITHAKA.	Arrived fron Istanbul, transit goods for Germany (Vice Consul, Varna, 1050/5.)
SALZBURG.	Left Varna in ballast, Turkish port. (Vice Consul, Varna, 1050/5.)
ALTMARK.	Arrived Trondhjem with aviation petrol from Mexico, end of December in damaged condition and still present 16/1. One U-boat had been in port. (B.2.) (N.A. Stockholm 1117/5.)
TARONGA.	Oslo, Norway - Stavanger Fjord reported 1/2, lying alongside, TARONGA at Akers Yard near Piperviken fitting out as troop transport. 'B.3.)(N.A.Stockholm 1117/5.)
ARKADIA.	Istanbul 4/2, arrivals. German ARKADIA. (N.C.S.O. Galatz, 1331/5.)
DRESDEN.	Mentioned in connection with Activity at Santos. (N.A. Monte Video, 1216/5), See South Atlantic.
PLUS.	PLUS sailed from Vigo on Tuesday night. (D.D.I.C. 2257/5, to F.O.C.N.A, etc.)
ERNA OLDENDORF.	(Left Vigo night of 26/1, and ran aground at Marin early on 27/1.) Now reported afloat and being pumped out. Spanish colours painted on her sides on leaving Vigo now removed. (D.S.519.)
PORTLAND.	(Left Talcahuano, Chile, 30/1.) Has not been located. Reported to have 14 days fuel only, but this is not definite. (D.S.519.)

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

GIULIO.
GIORDANI.

10,700 tons, tanker, reported to have struck a mine when entering Taranto last June necessitating her being in dock for 2 months. Is now said to be at Taranto. (D.S.519.)

Reported sinkings of Italian ships in Adriatic (unnamed)(D.S.519.)

MAYA.

Arrived Varna from Batoum with 5,000 tons gas oil for Germany, (V.Consul, Varna, 1060/5.)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

MENDOZA.

Your 2104/31, your 1854/1 and my 2357/1 Total number to be repatriated is 82. Intend to send them to Casablanca in steamship ANGOLA due Freetown about 6/2, if accommodation is available. (C. in C. S.A.,1245N/5, to Admty.)

SONTAY,
JEAN L.D.

On receipt of your 1051/4, I requested High Commr. to approach Union Govt., to release ship for passage to Simonstown escorted by SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA. He was informed that matter was subjudice. He now informs me that Union Govt. are taking powers which will enable them to requisition this ship as well as JEAN L.D.in about two days for use by U.K. Authorities. Hoped they will then remove troops invalids and any members of crew not prepared to serve. Essential to remove Captain, 2nd. Officer, W/T Officer, and O.C. troops before sailing to avoid grave danger of scuttling. If this course is adopted escort by SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA will be unnecessary. Message No.148, from High Commr. to Dominions Office refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown,1839/5, to Admty.)

/JEAN L.D.....

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

JEAN L.D., assurance from Boarding Officer.

Your 2047/31/1. From Boarding Officer's report it is learned that in order to overcome the objection of the Master of JEAN L.D., obtain his assistance in steaming his ship, and clear him in the eyes of his company and Vichy Govt., the Boarding Officer at the Master's request, gave him a signed statement, declaring on behalf of his Captain that JEAN L.D. would not be unnecessarily delayed at Capetown. Master gave the Boarding officer the following written statement. "Having received from the Captain of H.M. Cruiser that my ship will not be unduly delayed at Capetown after her visit I promised to sail her to that Port". This action by the Boarding Officer was not authorised by Captain of NORFOLK who would not have authorised any written guarantee in such circumstances. Instructions will be issued on this point. (C. in C. S.A., 2047H/5, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

PIZARRO. (torpedoed 31/1.)

British, 1367 tons, in ballast from London to Gibraltar and Seville, reported torpedoed 31/1 in ? 49.30 N., 19-40 W. Six survivors including Master landed Lisbon 5/2, from MACBRAE, remaining 23 not yet accounted for. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1715/5.)(D.S.521.)

EMPIRE CITIZEN (torpedoed 3/2.)

5 raft survivors of EMPIRE CITIZEN, one serious cot case picked up in position 058° 20' N, 021° 48' W, report ship sunk and one fully equipped lifeboat with 50 survivors including 2 women making for nearest land. Am continuing search to Eastward my position 058° 21' N. 020° 03',W, (CLARKIA, 1800/5, to C. in C. W.A.) Ship now presumed to have sunk. (D.S. 519.)

Red Sea.

2210/2.

Attack on Convoy B.N.14, 2210/2, to 2230Z/2. No hits or damage. (C. in C. E.I., 1804Z/5.) See East Indies.

S/M's Reported.

Submarine reported observed at 2000/4, in position 064° 10' N, 022° 40'W. Graded B.4. (F.O.Iceland, 1048/5, to Admty, and 1138/5, to CIRCASSIA.)

There is a U/B within 60 miles of 59° N. 19° W, which may make a signal shortly after noon B.S.T. on 7640 kcs. (D.D.I.C. 1057/5 to PORPOISE.)

/Source.....

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN-Contd.

29/12
St Jean de Luz

Source regarded as reliable by Military Attache reports Italian Submarine entered St Jean de Luz 29/12 under escort of two small Italian armed vessels. S/M left within 24 hours ? (for Bayonne) to effect repairs.
Informant stated was down by stern had list to port and was pitted with bullet holes.
(C. 3.) (N.A.Madrid, 1619/5 to D.N.I.)

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions

German 1 within 60 miles of 60° N., 10° W or between this position and Butt of Lewis
No direct evidence.
1 within 60 miles of 59° N., 19° W
1 within 60 miles of 58° 30' N., 2[illegible]° W
1 within 60 miles of 56° 30' N., 19° 30' W
1 within 40 miles of 55° 30' 21° W.,
1 near Azores.

Italian 1 within 60 miles of 54° N., 19° W

(D.D.I.C. 1335/5)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

HIPPER Cruiser from Brest

From photographs, it is believed that the HIPPER class cruiser is not in Brest. Reconnaissance shows that the ship is not in Bordeaux, La Rochelle or Cherbourg. Air patrols are to be flown p.m/5 in case she tries to pass the Iceland Faroes passage from the westward during the night 5/6 Feb.

Kiel Canal Blocked

It is reported that the Kiel Canal is blocked by ice and that convoys are being organized round Jutland for traffic of German North Sea ports to Norway, Sweden and the Baltic. The Dutch Canals and north Dutch ports are also frozen over.

SS RINGHORN was torpedoed in the N.W. Approaches early this morning.

British Air Activity

Bad weather caused all patrols by Coastal Command last night to be cancelled, but Beauforts bombed the power station at Brest and Bomber Command also attacked the Brest Naval dockyard and Cherbourg.

Enemy Air Activity

Attacks on Shipping

SS CALAFATIS (Greek 4443 tons) in Convoy S.C. 20 was attacked by F.W. aircraft in the N.W. Approaches today and is believed to have been sunk.

SS GWYNWARD (1177 tons) was hit by a parachute mine today whilst at anchor in the Humber and is sinking in shallow water.

/Minesweepers....

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Minesweepers GOSSAMER and HARRIER were ineffectively bombed today.

SOUTHDOWN and Convoy were attacked 18 miles E by N of Harwich. No damage is reported

VANITY and FN Convoy were bombed twice today off the North Foreland. VANITY shot down one and fighters two, of the enemy.

Lowestoft Attacked — Bombs dropped at Lowestoft today caused some naval casualties. One enemy plane was brought down.

Mining

Operation B.S. 50 — TEVIOT BANK and MEYNELL laid mines this afternoon in the East Coast Barrier.

INTREPID and IMPULSIVE are to disembark their mines and embark guns. With ICARUS they will be employed as minelaying escort for TEVIOT BANK.

Operation S.N. 7. — 1st M.L. Squadron and 4 destroyers left Port S.A. today to carry out this operation NIGERIA left Scapa at 2130 to provide close escort, and RODNEY with 4 destroyers left at 2105 to provide cover.

Aircraft Minelaying — Last night, 5 Hampdens laid mines successfully off Brest and 2 off Lorient.

Enemy Mining — Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary and a large number off Liverpool.

The Humber is closed owing to minelaying.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
~~Monday~~ Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vicy French

80% of French imports are passing to enemy countries.

South Atlantic

D.F. bearings indicate the possibility of an enemy raider within 200 miles of 11° N 23' W., and it is possible that cable ship LADY DENISON PENDER which left Bathurst 30/a.m. and has not reported since, may have been intercepted. 1st C.S. is to search, on the way to meet For ce Z. (Note Communication with LADY DENISON PENDER was established 0940/6)

Mediterranean

Mining of Suez Canal

Further mines were dropped in the Suez Canal today. Traffic was resumed throughout the Canal this morning after sweeping. Twelve ships reached Suez safely, but Greek SS INRIOS GEORGIOS (3800 tons) was mined at 1130 at km 143 and is across the Canal, stopping all navigation. It is hoped that small ships may be able to pass the wreck shortly and that normal navigation may be resumed in about 15 days time.

Operations against Libya

There are indications that the enemy are rapidly abandoning Benghazi. All available submarines have been ordered to concentrate in the Tripoli-Sicilian Channel route.

Mersa Tobruk was mined by enemy aircraft today, but owing to the urgency of providing army supplies the risk to shipping has been accepted until corvettes arrive which cannot be before 7/2.

Yugoslav neutrality

It is evident that full use is being made by the enemy both of Yugo-Slav ships and territorial waters.

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Admiralty Meeting of 7/2.	My 1616/26/1. Agenda for meeting to be held at the Admiralty at 1115/7. (A.C.N.S. H. 1333/4)
Stranraer Examination Service	Examination service at Stranraer will be operating from 0800/6. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1441/4)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE	At 1130/4 (D.C. 1147/4) At 2330/4 (D.C. 2354/4)
Scapa Repair of Loops	Your 1110/2. Anticipated that cable ship EMILE BAUDOT will be ready for service about 22/2 and will then be available for repairs to loops and laying of H.D.A. unit. (D.A/S.W 1148/4 to A.C.O.S)

Movements

SEALION	Leave patrol 1800/6. Route to Gap A. (S. 6 1030/4 to SEALION)
KING GEORGE V	My 1028/30. Request A/S air escort during daylight/5th for KING GEORGE V. Estimated position at 0900/5: 060° 39' N., 011° 32' W. Codeword LABEL (C. in C., H.F. 1545/4 to C. in C., Rosyth)
JACKAL	Sail JACKAL to Plymouth when fuelled. (C. in C., Londonderry)
	Expect A/S air escort by Hudson aircraft throughout daylight/5. (C. in C., Rosyth 1944/4 to KING GEORGE V)
Northern Patrol	Trawler Lines tonight. 2 Trawlers. (A.CD.S. 1550/4)

/Submarine....

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements-Contd.

Submarine Positions

At 0800/5 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1716/4.)

RESOLUTION

Admiralty 1206/3. Concur in proposed route. Proposed R/V for destroyers. Arrangements for Air Escort. Consider it most desirable that some Hunt class destroyer should join the escort from daylight Z- 2.
Intend to ask H.Q.F.C. for fighter escort during daylight in channel. (C. in C., W.A. 1905/4)

Operations

Operation P.X.

Operation ordered in AL. M/P.D. 09493/41 dated 1/2 will be known as P.X. Weather permitting it will be carried out to-morrow night. (C. in C., Nore, 1712/4)

British Air Activity

Patrols. Search for HIPPER

Request preparation be made to establish air patrol R. 1. and R. 2. starting a datum point 061° N., 012° W., in a direction 300° p.m. today. Object is to watch for and report HIPPER if she tries to pass Iceland Faeroes Channel from westward during the night 4/5-2 (C. in C. H.F., 0212/4 to C. in C., Rosyth) (See 0715/4)

My 2240/3.
Patrol Baily will be flown today. (C. in C Rosyth 0614/4 to C. in C., H.F.)

Patrol referred to in my 0212/4 will not be flown (C. in C., H.F. 0715/4 to KING GEORGE V)

My 0614/4. First aircraft returned owing to engine trouble. Second and final will take off from Wick about 1100. (C. in C., Rosyth 0810/4 to C. in C., H.F.)

My 0002/1/1. Owing to shortage of A/C Patrol UNST will seldom be flown and, as weather often stops Patrol FAIR, these two Patrols should no longer be regarded as being flown daily. When flown, they will be included in Daily Signal. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1310/4) See Summaries Folder

HOME COMMANDS

British Air Activity-Contd.

5 Patrol Stand is being flown to reach Norwegian coast at dusk. (C. in C., Rosyth 1632/4)

Search for HIPPER

Request patrols R 1 R 2 and FUGLE may be flown p.m/5. Object is to cover operation S.N. 7 and also to report German Cruiser ADMIRAL HIPPER if she tries to pass Iceland Faroes passage from westward during the night of 5/6. (C. in C., H.F. 2321/4 to C. in C., Rosyth)

Escort for FURIOUS.

Expect escort of Whitley aircraft about 0930 and Sunderland later. (C. in C., W.A. 0805/4 to FURIOUS)

HIPPER
At Brest
To be attacked

Available aircraft No 217 Squadron to attack tonight. Cruiser in dry dock at Brest with S.A.P. Bombs. Alternative target Submarines in U-Boat base at Lorient. (H.Q.C.C. 1207/4 to 15 Group, St. Eval)

Available aircraft No 53 Squadron to attack tonight cruiser in dry dock at Brest with S.A.P. bombs. Alternative target shipping in the Darse Transatlantique, Cherbourg. (H.Q.C.C. 1208/4 to 16 Group, Thorney Island)

Enemy Air Activity

GOSSAMER

Help. One enemy A/C bombing ORAB cable (?Table: GOSSAMER & HARRIER minesweepers) (GOSSAMER 0905/2)

Fighter aircraft have been despatched to the assistance of "Cable" (?Table) (Nore, 0929/4)

/Convoy.....

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Convoy — One enemy aircraft attacking Convoy in 51° 59' N., 1° 44' E. (SOUTHDOWN 0919/4)

BARON RENFREW (Bombed 28/1) — TENACITY considers towing unnecessary in present weather. Has requested me to stand by. Have bunker for 3 days. (ST. OLAVES 0925/4)

BARON RENFREW (?) developed heavy port list ST OLAVES standing by. (TENACITY 0935/4)

ST. OLAVE's 0925/4 and TENACITY's 0935/4. ST. OLAVES to stand by BARON RENFREW so long as fuel permits proceeding as necessary to Ardrossan to coal. TENACITY to report if assistance of another tug is required. If sufficiently seaworthy BARON RENFREW is to be taken to Rothesay Bay. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1240/4)

Continue to escort BARON RENFREW landing survivors at Rothesay. Report if BARON RENFREW cannot be taken to Rothesay in accordance with N.O.i/c Greenock's 1240/4. (C. in C., W.A., 2005/4 to CANDYTUFT)

WAZIRISTAN (Bombed 2/2) — Am approximately in position. No signs of LORD MIDDLETON or WAZIRISTAN. Have had to heave to owing to bad weather. visibility two miles. (BANDIT 1020/4)

Full gale and rain storms. Have to. Course S.S.W. two knots. Estimated position 61° N., 12° 9' W. (BANDIT 1300/4)

BANDIT 1300/4. If BANDIT has not made contact by tomorrow request aircraft if available to assist her. DOUGLAS pass to BANDIT. (A.C.C.S., 1854/4 to C. in C., Rosyth)

/Still unable....

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

WAZIRISTAN (Bombed 2/2) Contd.

still unable to turn. (BANDIT 1950/4)

WAZIRISTAN reported by A/C at 1147/4 in 061° 20' N., 011° 56' W., Armed trawler in company. DOUGLAS pass to BANDIT.
(C. in C., Rosyth 2348/4 to DOUGLAS)

Lowestoft Bombed

Following from N.O.I.C. Lowestoft. Enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs at 0925 on outskirts Waveney Docks. One direct hit on dug out. Feared approx. 3 naval ratings killed and buried. Excavation now proceeding. Enemy plane brought down and two Germans picked up. (F.O.I.C., Gt. Yarmouth 1030/4 to C. in C., Nore)

At 0925 Enemy Plane dropped 8 bombs Lowestoft Harbour and Town.
3 Naval, 10 Civilian, casualties.
Enemy subsequently destroyed. Two Germans picked up by Yarmouth Examination vessel, one wounded, one dead. (N.O.I.C., Lowestoft 1045/4 to Admty.)

Firth of Forth Heights of R/C Enemy A/C

Your 2050/3.
On 24th reported by GARTH at 3000 feet
On 24th reported by Patrol craft at 1000 ft.
On 25th reported by Patrol craft as very low
On 27th reported by VALOROUS at 2000 feet
(C. in C., Rosyth 1041/4 to Admty.)

Convoy E.N. Even

Enemy bombing Convoy in 51° 33' N., 1° 17'E (VANITY 1137/4)

1 Dornier shot down over Gunfleet. (VANITY 1150 to C. in C., Nore)

Convoy being bombed by aircraft in 51° 49' N., 1° 32' E. (VANITY 1405/4)

/My 1405.....

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy E.N. Even-Contd.	My 1405. No hits. 1 Dornier shot down by fighters. (VANITY 1409/4)
	My 1405. Another Dornier shot down by fighters. (VANITY 1415/4)
DIONE II (Bombed 3/2)	Have carried out searches without success Have you any further information?. My P, c and s 055° 56' N., 014° 20' W., 180° 1 knot. (ASSURANCE 1630/4 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)
Fireballs off Lowestoft	2 white fire 2 balls bearing 340° from 52° 23' N., 2° 1' E. (VANITY 1909/4)
GWYNWOOD	(British, 1177 tons) At 1915/4 while at anchor in convoy anchorage was hit in engine room aft by a parachute mine. Six of crew saved. eleven missing at present (F.O.Humber, 2145/4 to Admty.)

Mining

Thames Estuary 2 mines	Red mine detonated 2100/3 in 127° East Shingles Buoy 3.6 miles. Simultaneously explosion took place on starboard Quarter of leader and abeam of OROPESA trawler following five cables astern of LL Trawlers. Consider probably Green Mine, counter mined. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1040/4)
EMMAPLEIN	My 1817/2. Complete air search of area carried out yesterday without result. EMMAPLEIN considered sunk. (A.C.O.S., 1121/4)
Sweep of Thames Approaches	Request you arrange to carry out an Oropesa search of proposed new channel from (A) to (D) with fast minesweepers. (C. in C., Nore, 1144/4 to F.O.I.C. Harwich)

/H.S. 50.....

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

B.S. 50. Operation completed. (TEVIOT BANK 1530/4)

F.N. 29 Your 2008/31. Extension you propose cannot be approved. At present there is a considerable flow of genuine neutral trade which it would be very unfortunate to disturb. (A.C.N.S. H. 1647/4 to F.O.S.)

DOUWE AUKES Your 0943/1. DOUWE AUKES to return mines to Frater, and then to be sailed for Sheerness. (D.O.D.,H. 1658/4 to C. in C., Portsmouth)

INTREPID
IMPULSIVE
ICARUS 1. On return to Immingham INTREPID and IMPULSIVE are to disembark present outfit of mines and embark guns. They will be employed together with ICARUS as a minelaying escort for TEVIOT BANK. (A.C.N.S. H. 1817/4 to Commander D.20)

Liverpool 3 mines exploded at 1010/4, 1012/4, 1023/4 Particulars. (F.O.I.C., Liverpool 1826/4)

SS CALYX
Damaged
9 Mines
Detonated. Mine report to 1800/3 SS CALYX detonated one mine 045° Bar L.V. 8 miles. Ship slightly damaged now docked. To 1800/4. Total of 8 accoustic mines detonated by S.A. Gear. (Positions) (F.O.I.C., Liverpool 1848/4)

Operation
S.N. 7. Departure Port Z.A. 1830/4 R.A.M.L. in SOUTHERN PRINCE, MENESTHEUS, FORT QUEBEC, AGAMEMNON, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, ST. ALBANS, and CHARLESTON. (TRELAWNEY 1832/4)

Sailed from Scapa. NIGERIA, 2130, RODNEY, INGLEFIELD, ELECTRA, ECHO, BRILLIANT, at 2105. (A.C.O.S. 2135/4)

Humber
closed Humber closed owing to Minelaying. (C. in C., Rosyth, 2307/4 to VERSATILE)

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Unknown Vessel 2 Lifeboats	From unknown station. S.O.S. 56.27, 13.40 west 2 Rettungsboote. (Valencia Radio 1021/4)
	Detatch one destroyer to investigate. Destroyer should rejoin before dark. (C. in C., W.A., 1143/4 and 1235/4 to FURIOUS)
Suspicious Tanker	M/V's CHILEAN REEFER and AUTOLYCUS report independently suspicious Tanker sighted a.m. 2/2 in 060° 45' N., 019° 40' W., steering S.W. slow speed. Description. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1320/4)
Two E-Boats	Two enemy E-Boats bearing 130°., 2 miles course 130°. My position 51° 54' N., 1° 42' E. (Capt D. 16 1439/4)
	My 1439. Have lost touch with enemy. (D. 16 1449/4)
	Your 1439. These were M.T.B's 14 and 18. (C. in C., Nore, 1817/4 to D. 16)
HIPPER-class Cruiser	My 1400/4. From photographs it is believed that HIPPER class Cruiser is not in Brest. Reconnaissance shows that ship is not in Bordeaux, La Rochelle or Cherbourg. (D.D.I.C., 1745/4)
Vardo	Finnish Motor Ship CAROLINA THORDEN stopped by German Armed Trawler 15 miles off coast and taken to Vardo 2/2 released next day. Four trawlers appeared to be stationed there. One brought in ship name and nationality unknown probably Finnish SS WIPUNEN which left here for Panama same day. (Consul, Petsamo, 1757/4)

/By D.F.....

War Diary

2.2.1941
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence -Contd.

By D/F at 1836 B.S.T. unidentified Enemy Unit minor surface vessel in 54° 05' N., 5° 15' E., (D.D.I.C., 1926/4)

Kiel Canal Blocked by Ice.

My 2013/4. (Ice Report) Owing to blockage of Kiel Canal through Ice, convoys are being organized round Jutland for traffic of German North Sea ports to Norway, Sweden, and Baltic B. 2. (N.A.Stockholm, 2024/4)

N.I.D. Comment. As traffic through the Canal has been restricted recently, and large numbers of Merchant ships have collected in Holtenau Roads, this report is probably correct.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys

O.B.C. 282

0153/4. Escort ANTELOPE, ANTHONY, ACHATES, HEATHER LADY MADELINE, PICOTEE, SNOWDROP. 10. (6 with kites) (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0205/4, amended 0900/4) List and destinations (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1005/4)

O.B.O. 282

Sailed 0830/4. escort AYRSHIRE. One ship for Capetown SURAT. No kites. (N.C.S.O. 0910/4)

F.N. and F.S.

Amend my 2040/31/1 and 1650/3/2 as follows:- Escorts of F.S. 4 and F.N. 3. HASTINGS, WALLACE.
Escorts of F.S. 6- VERDUN, VALOROUS.
(C. in C., Rosyth, 0947/4)

E.N. 67

2130/4. H.M.T's ULLSWATER, PAINTER, extra escort H.M.T. BERKSHIRE joining ABERDEEN. Additional escort FOREY. 20 ships. Buchan Ness 1530/5. Duncansby Head 0615/6
Code Words:- EN 67 USAGE
EN L Portion MONITOR
EN O Portion MIXTURE
Loch Ewe Portion SLEEVE
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 0949/4)

My 0949/4. Add to Additional escort CHALLENGER. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1529/4)

W.N. 79 (O)

8 Ships. (List) (N.C.S.O. Oban 1010/4 to Admty.)

F.N. 100

0915/4, 15 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1041/4 Amended 1214/4)

F.S. 3.

Proceed at 1400 today to overtake F.S. 3 act as additional escort. Part company at Outer Dowsing and return to Rosyth adjusting speed to arrive daylight 6/2. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1123/4 to VIMIERA)

E.N. 65

Arrived less BORGHOLM (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1143/4)

/My 1143....

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys-Contd.

E.N. 65-Contd.	My 1143/4 BORGHOLM now arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1502/4)
F.N. 98	Arrived 1145/4 (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1158/4)
8 M/V's	N.C.S.O. Dartmouth's 2004/3. Intend sailing WIVERN and VANSITTART at 1730 to cover the passage of these M.V's. (C. in C., W.A 1205/4 to C. in C., Portsmouth)
F.S. 3.	VIMIERA will act as additional escort for F.S. 3 from Latitude of Whitby to outer Dowsing. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1159/4)
	Western Channel Night Report. (C. in C., W.A., 1311/4 amended 1841/4)
F.N. 99	1115/4. 30 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1329/4.)
?	Not met. Convoy must have passed East and been missed in low visibility. 51° 25' 20° 40'. (Weather) (LINCOLN, 1401/4 to C. in C., W.A.)
F.N. 99	List and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1403/4.)
W.N. 80	1248/4. H.M.T. HUGH WALPOLE INDIAN STAR escorting 6 ships. 1 ship with Kite. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1415/4)
	List and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1421/4)
F.S. 3.	Sailed (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1512/4)
C.E. 24 8 M.V's	Portsmouth night movements 4/5th. C.E. 24 St Helens to Nore. VANOC and CLEVELAND acting as additional escort and returning to Spithead 0800/5. 2 A/S trawlers and 8 M/V's Dartmouth to Nab WIVERN and VANSITTART from Plymouth to Nab acting as cover. (C. in C., Portsmouth, 1613/4)

/F.N. 1.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys

F.N. 1. (4) Code word for F.N. one South of the Tyne R A D I O. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1623/4 to SOUTHDOWN, COTSWOLD)

C.E. 24 Portsmouth to Southend (List) (N.C.S.O. Portsmouth, 1627/4)

8 M/V's My 2004/3. LOOSE sailed seven M/V's and escorts. (N.C.S.O., Dartmouth, 1637/4)

F.S. 3 List and destinations. (F.O.I.C., Tyne, 1656/4)

F.S. 3. sailed 1500/4/2, estimated number of ships 52. (F.O.I.C., 1659/4)

W.N. 79 Loch Ewe Section sailed 1700/4. 6 ships. (N.C.S.O., Aultbea, 1702/4)

F.N. 99 15 ships, 1 H.M.D. and 8 trawlers from Humber joining at Outer Dowsing. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1719/4)

W.N. 79 Loch Ewe Section (List) (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1749/4)

F.N. 100
F.N. 99
C.E. 24
F.S. 3
F.N. 1 } Convoy positions at 0800/5. (A.C.H.Q., Chatham, 1843/4)

O.B. 282 My 1914/3 (escort for O.B. 282) delete PICOTEE and SNOWDROP. (Capt. (D) Greenock, 1902/4)

O.B. 281 Remain with O.B. 281 until further orders. (A.C.W.A., 1903/4 to WITCH, MONTGOMERY, WILD SWAN)

/E.N. 66.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys-Contd.

E.N. 66 (ROSLIN CASTLE passed)	Ship passed E.N. 66 058° 42' N., 005° 38' W., estimated speed 18 knots, gave name ROSLIN CASTLE, approx course 275°. Reporting as have received no information. (STELLA CAPELLA, 1925/4 to C. in C., W.A.)
O.G.M. 52.	1927/4. H.M.T. DERBY COUNTY, Two, One with Kite. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven, 1938/4)
E.N. 67	CHALLENGER acts as additional escort to E.N. 67 as far as Dunnet Head, thence proceeds independently to Clyde. (N.C.S.O Methils 1529/4/2 refers. (C. in C., Rosyth 1941/4 to C. in C., W.A.)
F.S. 3.	Part company with TEVIOT BANK at Humber light vessel and proceed to join convoy F.S. 3 due Outer Dowsing 1130/5. You are to form additional escort to Sheerness. (C. in C., Nore, 2224/4 to MEYNELL)
E.N. 67.	2130/4. H.M.T's ULLSWATER, PAYNTER. Extra escort H.M.T. BERKSHIRE, joining off Aberdeen additional escort FOWEY, CHALLENGER. 21 ships. 12 with kites. (N.C.S.O. Methil 2255/4) (List and destinations) 2302/4)

Ocean Convoys

H.X. 108	Your 1201/3 Destinations. (D.T.D. 1934/4 to N.C.S.O. Bermuda)
H.X. 103	Made a bad landfall for Butt of Lewis and passed north of North Rona Island. Commodore stated he had no knowledge of QZX. 170 neither had the Master of his ship a notation of Admiralty Notice to Mariners 1768/40 on his charts. Request your remarks. (D.T.D. 1936/4 to C.S.A.C. Halifax)

/S.L. 65.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys

Ocean Convoys-Contd.

S.L. 65. Sailing destinations. (D.T.D. 2008/4 to N.C.S.O. Freetown)

Military Convoys

W.S. 6 My 2318/21. Para 2. Speed of slowest ship in convoy will be 10½ knots.
Para 3. Amend as follows:-
Add tanker CYMBULA from Mersey.
Delete MAHANARDA from Mersey and LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE from Clyde. (1st S.L. 1146/4)

Admty. 2318/21.
(1) A/S escort W.S. 6 unescorted Bristol Channel portion BROADWATER (B) Liverpool portion RESTIGOUCHE, ST. LAURENT (C) Clyde portion, OTTAWA, LEGION, PIOURUN, GARLAND, SKEENA, NIZAM (D) KEPPEL, COTTESMORE, ATHERSTONE also DOUGLAS if available to join from Londonderry as arranged by N.O.i/c Liverpool (ii) Senior Officer A/S escort OTTAWA. (C. in C., W.A., 1625/4)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Tuesday

CASUALTIES & DEFECTS

SUNFISH	Request dock for repairs to Asdic. (SUNFISH 0415/4 to Capt. S. 6.)
ROCKPOOL (Grounded 1/2)	Request immediate assistance. Possibility of abandoning ship. Tugs have not arrived. (ROCKPOOL, 0759/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)
FAME	Sailed for Chatham in tow of tugs WATERMEYER and FAIRPLAY I and escorted by SHELDRAKE. (N.O.I.C., Sunderland, 0955/4)
	Proceed daylight along Q.Z.S. 40 until SHELDRAKE and FAME in tow tugs are met and form additional escort to Sheerness. Estimated position FAME Sheringham Light Float 0430 speed of advance 9 knots. (C. in C., Nore, 2300/4 to EXMOOR)
TORBAY (S/M) VANCOUVER (British Tanker 5729 tons) Beached.	TORBAY was in collision with Tanker VANCOUVER while carrying out independent exercises in Loch Long at 1737/3. TORBAY had only slight headway after surfacing and damage to her bow is superficial. Tanker holed in Engine Room and had later to be beached. (S. 2. 1252/4 to F.O.S.)
IMBAT	(Wooden Steam Drifter) Sunk in collision Cost of salvage and repair excessive and success problematical. Intend to destroy wreck. Request relief drifter may be sent. (R.A.Scapa, 1725/4 to D.S.V.P.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Enemy Unit	Following by D/F Bearing unknown unit reported by Admty. at 2137/3 Land's End 210, Scarborough 207. (F.O.C.N.A., 0104/4 to S and A North Atlantic)
CLAN CAMPBELL	British CLAN CAMPBELL Freetown 29/1. Liverpool 11¼ knots (Route) (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/4 to S and A N.A.Station)
Force Z	Your 1259/3 and your 1255/3. In view of A.C.W.A's 1659/1 giving E.T.A. of force Z in new position X 054° 30' N., 020° 40' W., as 1100Z-1/3, Force Z cannot reach position Q at 16 knots before 1300Z-16. Re Admty's 1049/29, amend position Q to read 035° 00' N., 022° 40' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1650/4 to C. in C., S.A.)
Operation "Ration"	Your 1036/3. This information makes situation quite clear as to action required. Unless there are objections I consider it would help locally if Captain of French escort and merchant ships can be informed by boarding officer that action is being taken because we are aware 80% of French imports are passing to enemy countries. (S.O.Force H., 1737/4 to Admty.)
EMPIRE TROOPER	D. of S.T's 1752/3. Earliest date of arrival of EMPIRE TROOPER at Lagos. (Route date) (F.O.C.N.A., 1800/4 to C. in C., S.A.)
RESOLUTION	My 1919/27. Departure postponed (date) (A.C.N.S. (F) 2308/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/readable

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Enemy Units

D/F bearing indicates enemy unit presumed surface vessel possibly auxiliary within 100 miles of 023° N., 020° W., at 2137/Z/3 (C. in C., S.A., 0129N/4 to South Atlantic Stn. Squadron.)

By D/F on 5315 kcs. at 0027/4 G.M.T. Position of unknown enemy unit was approx. 7° 20' S., 22° 25' W., (bearing) (D.D.I.C. 0511/4)

Enemy W/T Analysis

D/F bearings indicates unknown enemy unit in approximately 007° 20' S., 022° 25' W., at 00272/4. (C. in C., S.A., 0715N/4, to S.A.Squadron)

Your 0511/4. Suggest that Raider position at 0027Z/4 was within 150 miles of either 4°S., 20° W., or 9°S., 26° W., reliability 40% for each area.
Also bearings of the same message repeated on Nordeich frequency at 0157Z and? (0'362/4) may refer to auxiliary within 200 miles of 11° N., 23° W., reliability 40%. (C. in C., S.A., 1841/4 to Admty.)

My 0129/4. Consideration of further bearings indicates this unit was within 200 miles of 058° S., 018° E., reliability 45%. Possible a more Northerly unit was transmitting simultaneously. (C. in C., S.A., 1845/4 to S.A.Squadron)

AFRICA MARU

Your 1415/3. Details of cargo. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1703/4, 1705/4, to Admty.)

LADY DENISON PENDER
C.S. 1 to search.

My 1259/3. D/F bearings indicate possibility of enemy raider or auxiliary within 200 miles of position 011° N., 023° W., at 02362/4. Cable ship LADY DENISON PENDER left Bathurst a.m./30/1 to operate in position 014° 52' N., 023° 28' W should have been there 1/2 but has not reported, may have been intercepted on passage. Search area roughly between logitudes 019° 30' W., and 022° 00' W., as far as practicable on passage. Meeting with Force Z not to be delayed more than 5 hours. (C. in C., S.A., 1929N/4 to C.S.1)

/Possible Raiders...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

Possible Raiders

Enemy activities on this coast appear to indicate presence or expected presence of German raiders this side of South Atlantic.
Secret sources report offers to divulge position of raider but no positions yet obtained though offers are being investigated.
Secret source (C.O) reports raider will fuel night of 8-9/2.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 1941 2/4 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Enemy W/T Analysis

Your 1105/29.
Ref. para 1. Duringthe period 20/12 to 28/1, 20 signals were intercepted originating in South Atlantic, South of the Equator.
2. Ref. Para 3. Types of ships cannot be identified by study of W/T traffic, but certain signals are characteristic of U-Boats, others are not. These characteristics are present in Freetown area and northward, and on the Halifax Route. The identical features are therefore explained by probability that in both cases they originate from U-Boats. These features are absent South of the Equator, and it is probable that signals there were made by surface units.
3. It is thought that German Shore Authorities are not primarily interested in this traffic. Inference is that signals are intercommunications between ships.
4. Considered that traffic in the area South of the Equator originates, as suggested in your para. 2 a, from surface raiders intercommunicating or operating with supply ships, and it is possible that SCHEER and her Auxiliary were responsible.
(Head of M. 2231/4 to C. in C., S.A.)

French S/M's Positions

Telegrams intercepted by special French intercept station, indicate:-
1. ESPOIR and VENGEUR are at Diego-Saures.
2. VILLE DE ROUEN and LECONTE DE LISLE have either left or are about to leave Madagascar for Europe. (No. 20 Military Mission, Brazzaville, 1010/5)

MOST SECRET.

4.2.1941.
Tuesday.

WAR DIARY.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Suez Canal.	My 1939/3. Traffic has been resumed throughout canal. Expected that DERWENT HALL will arrive at Tewfik p.m. today. (S.N.O. Suez Canal, 1033/4 to Admty. etc.) See also 1443/4.
Enemy Ships Bombed.	Operational summary No.239 up to 1200 hours 4/2. Egypt. Day 3/2. 8 Blenheims bombed 2 enemy ships off coast near Sirte and M.T. convoy in neighbourhood of Sirte. Reconnaissances Benghazi reported hospital ship and damaged ships. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1241/4).
Yugo Slav., neutrality.	It is evident that full use is being made by enemy both of Yugo Slav ships and territor-al waters. Proposals. (C.in C. Med. 1245/4). See Mediterranean Volume.
A/S vessels.	Group 16 aux. A/S vessels and P.(? O) L vessels will be and five(as received) are very urgently required in Mediterranean. Request their completion and sailing may be hastened as much as possible. What is situation as regards (? crews). (C.in C. Med., 1305/4 to C.in C. S.A.)
Minesweepers Needed.	N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0717Z/31. 109th Minesweeping Group is very urgently required in Mediterranean to cope with magnetic mining. Request passage to Suez may be hastened. (C.in C. Med., 1307/4 to C.in C. E.I.)
Canal Sweeping, Greek ship Mined.	My 1033/4. Canal between Kabret and Suez thoroughly swept with one sweep and D.W.I. Wellington aircraft before traffic started. 12 ships reached Suez safely. (? 13th). Ship, Greek INRICS GEORGIOS 3800 (? tons) mined at kilometre 143 at 1130 and is across canal stopping all navigation. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1443/4 to Admty etc.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

W.S. 5 A.	Bunker and requirements at Suez. (S.S.T.O. Port Said, 1813/4)
INRIOS GEORGIOS	My 1443/4. Ship nearly broken in two and after part towed partly clear leaving channel about 25 metres wide. Salvage and/or (? demolition) being undertaken and canal being widened by dredging. Hope small ships may be able to pass wreck shortly and normal navigation be resumed in about 15 days. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1903/4 to Admty. etc.)
Benghazi, orders to TRUANT TETRARCH	Proceed Westward with all despatch as far as possible on surface TRUANT South and TETRARCH North of line 290° from Benghazi Light. Further orders following. (Capt. S. 1. 1805/4. to TRUANT, TETRARCH)
Ammunition for Captured Guns	Capture of Italian 20 mm. Breda guns raises problem of spare barrels and ammunition. Please indicate proposals. (D.T.S.D. 1851/4 to W.O.)
ILLUSTRIOUS	Re disposal of ammunition. (D.T.S.D., 1852/4 to C. in C., Med.)
S/M Patrols	Operation B.S. Appendix One, para 4. Establish patrol lines as follows. (Capt. S.1. 1901/4 to TRIUMPH, TETRARCH, TRUANT)
	Cancel my 1901/4. Operation B.S. Appendix 1 para. 4. Establish patrol lines as follows (Capt. S. 1. 2311/4 to TRIUMPH, TETRARCH, TRUANT)
URSULA	URSULA leaves Malta 0001/5 for J 035° 15' 011° 28' - 000° - 30 - 30. (S.O. (S) Malta, 2113/4. to UPRIGHT)

/Suez Canal.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Suez Canal Mines Exploded	Your 1902/2 and 1939/3. Request for details of mines (D.M.S., 2203/4 to S.B.N.O., Suez Canal)
S/M Patrol Benghazi	Indications are enemy rapidly abandoning Benghazi. All available submarines ordered to concentrate in Tripoli-Sicilian Channel route. Unless otherwise ordered carry out patrol ordered. (S.O.(S), Malta, 1847/4 to UTMOST)
Landing of Kapetillo, night of 2/3	By 2005/2 and prev. 0632/3 not to hand. A/C night dive bombing attack. 3 A/C Targets and Apparent Results. No casualties. One A/C hit by single rifle-calibre bullet. No formation "Appreciation". Circle 200 yard radius, centre 110° 9 miles from leading light. (C.O. Force K., 0711/4 to C. in C. M.E.)
Persian Gulf Command Control	S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0202/4 passed to Army with reference to 1439/3/4. (1) Unsuitable generally. Experience may show one A.A.B.V. to be necessary to augment present forces. (11) Consider 2 shore stools be taken up and about to deal with fires started. Better water investigation. (111) Consider question of assistance by A/C should be deferred effectiveness of surface patrol has been tried out. (C. in C., E.I., 0830/4 to Admiralty, Repeated F.O.C.-in-C., M.E., S.N.O., Persian Gulf, C. in C., Singapore)
BAHREIN BARSIA BARYEEA BARYORA	Your 1020 and prev. 1856/3. Date of arrival at Bahrein (S.N.O. Aombey, 1018/4 to C. in C., E.I.)
BALMORIE	By 0808/31/4. Date of resuming duty service. (C. in C., E.I., 1038/4 to Admty.)

/HELIOPOLIS.....

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Enemy Unit	Colombo's 1457/2. Transmission read by Mauritius W/T Station at 1457/2 G.M.T. was of control on 16350 kcs. and was not a series B transmission. (D.D.I.C. 0149/4 to C. in C., E.I.)
Four Ships required in Mediterranean immediately.	Amendment to his 1028/3 (C. in C., E.I. 0740Z/4)
Bombing of Mogadishu, night of 2/2	My 2005/2 and your 0652/3 not to Admty. A. Night dive bombing attack, 9 A/C Targets and Apparent Results. No casualties. One A/C hit by single rifle-calibre bullet. B. Corrosion "CUCUMBERS". Circle 200 yard radius, centre 110° 9 cables from leading light. (S.O.Force K., 0717Z/4 to C. in C. E.I.)
Persian Gulf Contraband Control	S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0802/1 passed to Admty with reference to 1148/23/1. (1) Concur generally. Experience may show one A.B.V to be necessay to augment present forces. (11) Consider 2 dhows should be taken up and armed to deal with dhow traffic. Matter under investigation. (111) Consider question of assistance by A/C should be deferred effectiveness of surface patrol has been tried out. (C. in C., E.I., 0850Z/4 to Admiralty, Repeated F.O.C., R.I.N., S.N.O., Persian Gulf, C. o S., Singapore)
BANKURA BAMORA BARPETA BARJORA	Your 1028 and your 1856/3. Dates of arrival at Aden. (S.S.T.O. Bombay, 1012Z/4 to C. in C., E.I.)
FALMOUTH	My 0452/21/1. Date of readiness for service. (C. in C., E.I., 1056Z/4 to Admty.)

/SHROPSHIRE.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

SHROPSHIRE HERMES	Sailed, E.T.A. Kilindini 0600/9. (N.O.I.C., Durban, 1609Z/4)
JARAGOLA "Q" Report	My 1236/2/2. Ship JARAGOLA sighted was H.M.S. CAPETOWN. (C. in C., E.I., 1824/4 to Admty.)
FORMIDABLE	In view of S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1443/4 (Minesweeping in Canal) is FORMIDABLE to proceed to Suez? (C. in C., E.I., 1926Z/4 to C. in C., Med.)
Enemy Unit	By D/F on 12700 kc/s at 1943 B.S.T. bearings of enemy surface unit (details) (D.D.I.C., 2339/4 to C. in C's E.I. and S.A. etc.)

China

Aircraft Tender	Air Ministry 1028/25 and X 309 26/1 to C.H.Q., Far East. Para 3, ship tender. Requirements. Unable to obtain anything oil-burning hence so have decided accept one coal-burning. Another, oil-burning is needed. Facilities at Nancowry, Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius, etc. (H.Q. Far East, 0130/4 to Air Ministry)
Enemy Unit	D/F position 0027Z/4. German mobile unit. 018° N., 111° E., Vicinity reciprocal position more likely. (C.O.S., Singapore, 0341Z/4, to C. in C., A.W.I.)
Raider Intelligence	Admty's. 6714/4/1. Agree he had facts regarding raiders A B and C. As raiders A and B are reported to have met in the vicinity of Marshall Island on 10/10. (Navy Board Melbourne 1300/12/1) Consider raider which captured OLE JACOB is not (as suggested by C. in C., E.I., 1744/17/1 para one) connected with Pacific activity. (C. in C., China, 0475Z/4 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.2.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

American & West Indies

U.S.Navy Request for information of Ship Movements.	Your 1305/30/1. In view of N.A. Washington 1239/3, no action is to be taken. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1002/4 to S.N.O. Curacoa)
D/F Signals	Re merchant ship receivers. (C.N.S., Canada 1203/4)
AORANGI } AWATEA }	Re protection of. Conveying New Zealand Air Force personnel, and employment of PRINCE ROBERT and PRINCE HENRY to escort (C. in C., A.W.I., 1301/4 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.
Inter-Island Air Communication	S.N.O. Curacao 1226/3 being passed to you. This would be welcome and would greatly assist in improvement of inter-Island communication. Recommend facilities be given later on to requirements of service aircraft. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1732/4 to Admty.)
Detach S/M for A/S training	Your 1141/30. With concurrence of Dutch C. in C., it has now been decided that O.15 shall be retained in Canada after refit in order to assist in A/S training. Date of completion of refit of O.15 should be reported. (D.O.D. (H) 1741/4 to C.N.S. Canada)
DRAMATIST BEAVERBRAE PACIFIC SHIPPER MANCHESTER MERCHANT.	Freightships (named) sailed with Aircraft Trinidad, St. John N.B. and Halifax N.S. (dates) (D. of S.T. 2009/4 to C. in C., A.W.I., C.N.S., Ottawa)
Shipping, Canal Ports.	Your 1056/30. Supplies of S.P. 02272 (10) and (11) not available at Colon, Curacao or Bermuda. Ships bound for U.K. from Canal were therefore routed via Jamaica where supplies were available. Bunkering at canal ports was arranged as a temporary measure to save time and expence. Small stocks of S.P's mentioned being sent from Jamaica to Colon by first opportunity, after which normal bunkering will be resumed. (C. in C., A.W.I., 2246/4 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

4.2.1941.
Tuesday.

WAR DIARY.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

BABITONGA, DRESDEN.

Following received from Santos. (A.S.) BABITONGA and DRESDEN were testing main engines for four hours today Monday. (S.O.(I) Montevideo 0124Z/4).

ERNA OLDENDORFF.

My 1105/28. ERNA is now afloat at Marin and being pumped out. Spanish colours apparantly painted on sides for the voyage have been removed. (Consul, Vigo 1030/4).

PLUS.

PLUS sailed tonight Tuesday. (N.V.Vigo, 1122/4 to Admty).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

SONTAY.

Your 1810/3. In view of presence of invalids on board, SONTAY should proceed on voyage to Simonstown as soon as possible. Future commitments of SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA also render this desirable. (Head of M, 1051/4 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

MENDOZA.

Following from M.E.W. Your 2355/2. MENDOZA and cargo to be seized with exception of following items which are released:- Instructions being sent to Governor through Colonial Office. (D.E.W.D. 1850/4 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

4.2.1941.
Tuesday.

WAR DIARY.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

RINGHORN CRISPIN. (Norwegian 1298 tons) Position 055 46'N., 022 36' W., picked up 5 survivors only of RINGHORN torpedoed at 0500/4. Have twice attacked doubtful contact. Am proceeding, CAMELIA in company. Have 121 survivors of H.M.S. CRISPIN some were picked up by other ship.
(HARVESTER 1320/4 to C.in C. W.A.)

RINGHORN has been in Convoy O.B.280 but was probably a straggler.
(D.S.519).

Unknown Ship. Reported at 1037/4 that she was being attacked by a U/Boat about 190' W.N.W. of Bloody Foreland. (D.O.R. 5/2).

Reporting of Attacks. A convoy was recently attacked by a U/Boat and no W/T reports were made by the Merchant Ships although some of them sighted the submarine. Ref: A.M.S.I. 237, Masters are to be informed that in future if a U/Boat attacks a convoy when an anti-submarine escort is present, ships attacked or in the immediate vicinity must invariably report immediately by W/T on 500 Kc/s any useful information they may have to impart to the escort.
(D.T.D. 1952/4 to N.C.S.O's).

Submarines Reported.

2347. By D/F on 5660 kc/s. at 2347/3. Position of German U/Boat was near 58° 30'N., 10° W. Very indefinite fix.
(D.D.I.C. 0027/4).

MOST SECRET.

4.2.1941.
Tuesday.

WAR DIARY.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

1737. Submarine reported on surface ½ mile S.E. of Whiteness Hill Light 060° 55'N., 001° 00'W. at 1757 today. Submarine dived and proceeded in S.E. direction. (C.3.) (A.C.O.S. 1757/4).

0500. Message A.F. Position 55° 46'N., 22° 36'W. at 0400/4 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1834/4 to G.B.M.S. Area 1).

1228. 58.10N., 19° W. indefinite position (Germans) (D.S.519).

1622 and 1708. 58° N., 19° W.

Estimated U/Boat Dispositions.

German.

Possibly 1 between 60° N., and 62° N. 12° W. and 15° W.
Possibly 1 between 58° 30'N., and 60° 30'N 9° W. and 11° W.
1 within 60 miles of 58° 10'N., 19° W at 1228/4.
1 within 60 miles of 58° 30'N., 22° W.
1 within 56° 54'N., 20° 22'W. at 2239/3.
1 in about 53° 30'N., 20° 30'W at 1816/3 may have moved N.N.W.
Possibly 1 within 100 miles of 50° N., 27° W.
1 near Azores.

Italian.

1 in 54° N., 19° W. at 1521/3.
No news of others which may be at sea. (D.D.I.C. 1257/4).

Submarines Attacked.

1320. By HARVESTER. See ships Attacked - RINGHORN.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.2.1941.
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Owing to the weather, A.P. vessels off Brightlingsea and Harwich sheltered in harbour tonight.

Very incomplete air reconnaissance today failed to locate the HIPPER class cruiser at Brest.

CRISPIN
Sunk

CRISPIN (Ocean boarding vessel- Special A.A.Vessel) was torpedoed and sunk tonight in the N.W. Approaches.

British Air Activity

Bad weather caused patrols in the southern half of the North Sea to be curtailed today.

Seven Hampdens out of 12 despatched, succeeded last night in attacking the estimated position of the HIPPER class cruiser at Brest, and one of the seven aircraft also attacked Cherbourg.
Projected operations by 105 other bombers were cancelled owing to bad weather on the Continent.

Enemy Air Activity

Steam trawler ARCTIC TRAPPER was bombed and sunk off Ramsgate this morning.

SS DIONE II a straggler from S.C. 20 was bombed in the N.W. Approaches this afternoon.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.2.1941.
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Enemy Mining

Hostile aircraft chased by our fighters dropped mines in the Thames Estuary this afternoon. A total of 28 enemy aircraft are suspected of minelaying in the Estuary this afternoon. Convoy F.S. 1 was machine gunned in the Thames Approaches this morning by an aircraft which dropped mines.

M/S trawler SOUTHERN CHIEF was damaged by the fifth mine which she detonated off Milford Haven today. M.A/S Boat 12 was also damaged by a mine in the area.

Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff and Barry were closed this evening and ships are not to sail from Swansea to the eastward. Aircraft minelaying between 1950 and 2200 hours is suspected.

SS CALYX (212 tons) was damaged by a mine off Liverpool today but reached port.

British Mining

One Hampden laid a mine off Lorient last night.

Operation E.A has been postponed for the present.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.2.1941.
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

Operation "Ration"

Admty. 1036/3 outlines the policy of H.M. Govt. towards French ships.

Mediterranean

Mining of Suez Canal

Further mines were dropped in the Suez Canal today. An unexploded mine was counter mined this morning and shipping started moving from Bitter Lake to Suez.
SS. DERWENT HALL was mined this afternoon and is obstructing shipping. It is hoped to get her alongside the bank so that traffic can proceed tomorrow.

Air Attack on Castel Benito

Last night, 7 Wellingtons from Malta dropped over 11½ tons of bombs on the aerodrome at Castel Benito (Tripoli), destroying at least 7 aircraft on the ground and damaging hangars.

East Indies

C. in C., E.I. 00582/3 making proposals regarding burning of navigation lights on the station.

MOST SECRET.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Stornoway Sub-Command.

It has been decided to transfer Stornoway sub-command from the Orkneys and Shetlands command to the W.A. command, When the new commands described in 65 AZ 61 AK of 26/1 are brought into force.

Between of Orkneys and Shetlands.

2. The northern limit of the Western Approaches Command, and of the Stornoway sub-command, will be a line drawn from Cape Wrath to a position 180° 10 miles from Portland (Dyrholaey), Iceland, and thence to Cape Farewell, Greenland. This will be the southern limit of the Orkney and Shetland Command.

FITZROY, WILD BOAR, ARROWE.

3. The Western Limit of the Western Approaches command will be the line drawn from Cape Farewell, Greenland to position 57° 43'N., 30° W and thence along the meridian of 30° W.

MINNIE DE LARRINAGA.

4. The Iceland sub-command will remain in the Orkney and Shetlands Command.

To Authorities at Home only.

BROADWATER.

5. It is hoped any small inconveniences that the above division entails will be accepted without further amendments being proposed.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 0030/3 "A" Mge.)

Warships entering Eire territorial waters.

If any ship flying White Ensign is likely to enter Eire territorial waters Admty. should if possible be informed in Advance.
(D.N.I. 2012/3).

Trawler lines tonight.

4 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 2501/3).

Patrols Sheltering.

All patrol sheltering in harbour for night.
(N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea 1630/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of United Kingdom.

DELUGE.

At 2330/2. (D.C. 0008/3).
At 1130/3. (D.C.1158/3).
At 2330/3. (D.C.2359/3).

Defence of Orkneys and Shetlands.

287. My 1615/31/1. (See Operations Volume). para.2 second sentence I consider I should be responsible for items (a) to (e) in para 2 of the annexe the two notes being deleted.
(A.C.O.S. 1150/3).

Movements.

FITZROY, WILD SWAN, ANEMONE.

Return to Londonderry.
(C.in C. W.A. 0035/3).

MINNIE DE LARRINAGA.

Sailing MINNIE DE LARRINAGA postponed, further 24 hours owing unsuitable weather.
(C.in C. Nore 0932/3).

BROADWATER.

On completion of oiling anchor in Mumbles Bay until further orders.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0958/3).

PHOEBE EDINBURGH.

C.in C. H.F. 1041/3. See Operations Volume.

Patrols Sheltering.

Patrols proceeding to alternative positions for shelter.
(N.O.I.C. Brighlingsea 1105/3).

Trawler lines tonight.

4 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1551/3).

Patrols Sheltering.

All Patrol sheltering in harbour for night.
(N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea 1650/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (Contd.)

All A/P vessels sheltering in harbour owing weather conditions.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1943/3).

Operations.

Attack on certain German M/V's.

Asking whether UREX can be used.
(F.O.S. 1533/3 to A.C.O.S.) See Operations W. Volume.

Submarines.

TUNA.

Tuna proceeding to Azores, position 0800/3 044° 06'N., 016° 44'W.
(C.in C. W.A. 1103/3 to LEITH, ROCHESTER).

SNAPPER
TRIBUNE.

SNAPPER to remain in North Zone eastern sector from 1200/5 to 1200/8. TRIBUNE report if she will not be North of 047° 48' by 0800/8.
(Capt: (S) 2 1128/3).

TRIBUNE,
MOQUEUSE
TIGRIS.

TRIBUNE to leave patrol 6/2 (route) R/V with L.A. MOQUEUSE (position) 0815/9. Lights T.B.R. Position of TIGRIS.
(Capt: (S) 2 1129/3).

Positions.

At 0800/4.
(F.O.S. 1617/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

8.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Additional Patrols being flown today.
S.A.1.A. S.A.2. both a.m. A/S patrols of Minches 0900 to 1745.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0920/3).

S.B.R.
T.B.R.

Request submerged bombing restrictions 30 miles either side of a line from 059° N., 023° W. through 049° N., 011° W. to 056° 47' N., 007° 57' W. from 0900/5 to 1930/8 and total bombing restrictions within 20 miles of 056° 47' N., 007° 57' W. from 0001/9 to 1400/9.
(Capt:(S) 2 1007/3).

Brest.

Available aircraft No.53 and 217 Squadrons attack tonight 3rd/4th Feb. cruiser in dry dock at Brest. Bombs 500 lb. S.A.P.
(H.Q.C.C. 1225/3, 1250/3).

British aircraft fired on at Lowestoft.

Your 0014/26. N.O.I.C. Lowestoft now reports spotters say Wellington A/C was flying S.E. 800 feet with undercarriage up and fire ceased from ships upon firing of recognition signals.
(C.in C. Nore 1300/3).

Standing Patrols.

Add Patrol Bailey (details) to my 0002/1/1.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2240/3. See Summaries folder.

S.S. LANRICK.

Aircraft reports one merchant ship in position Z.G.M.Q. 1241 at 1020 course 310 degrees. Identify this ship.
(A.C.O.S. 1315/3 to N.O.I.C. Faroes).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

Your 1315/3. Ship identified S.S. LANRICK (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1748/3).

Enemy Air Activity.

BARON RENFREW. (Bombed 28/1).

Tugs ASSURANCE and ST. OLAVES and SHEMARA H are to be recalled, diverting one to assist TENACITY with BARON RENFREW if necessary.
(C.in C. W.A. 0037/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

Return to Campbeltown.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0107/3 to ASSURANCE SHEMARA).

Connected with BARON RENFREW at 1400 in 055° 02'N., 011° 34'W. proceeding at approx. 5 knots.
Men off TENACITY with 6 volunteers off CANDYTUFT on board BARON RENFREW.
Chief Officer TENACITY reports unexploded bomb on board otherwise little damaged.
(TENACITY 1550/3).

My 0111/3. TENACITY towing BARON RENFREW in position 055° 02'N., 011° 34'W making 5 knots at 1400/today. CANDYTUFT in company.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2022/3 to ST. OLAVES.)

OLYMPIER Survivors.

My 1447/2. Keep good look-out for this life-boat.
(C.in C. W.A. 0931/3 to ANEMONE SHEMARA CANDYTUFT).

GRELROSA.

Arrived VOLUNTEER with 31 survivors from GRELROSA.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0940/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

OLYMPIER BARON RENFREW.	Arrived rescue ship TOWARD with 20 survivors from OLYMPIER and 12 from BARON RENFREW. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1044/3).
ARCTIC TRAPPER (Steam Trawler) Sunk.	ARCTIC TRAPPER sunk by bomb in approx. position 090° 3 miles from Ramsgate Pier Head. Fear no survivors. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1000/3).
	ARCTIC TRAPPER attacked by plane with under-carriage, which dropped one bomb scoring direct hit amidships. Ship sank in 2 minutes, 3 survivors. Topmasts showing at low water 3½ miles 090° from Ramsgate Pier Head. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1250/3).
WAZIRISTAN (Bombed 2/2).	WAZIRISTAN in position 061° 04'N., 012° 09' W. Weather calm. HAVELOCK parting company. (HAVELOCK 1101/3).
	Sunderland aircraft being sent to direct tug and act as A/S escort over ship 0930, E.T.A. (C.in C.Rosyth 0242/3 to HAVELOCK).
	My 0242/3. Aircraft delayed by weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 0546/3 to HAVELOCK).
	HAVELOCK's 1101/3. BANDIT cannot arrive in position till 2200/3 at earliest. Consider destroyer will be necessary to protect BANDIT and WAZIRISTAN and assist in making contact. (A.C.O.S. 1241/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Detail one corvette to escort WAZARISTAN reported in position 061° 04'N., 012° 09' W. at 1101/3 presumably stopped.
BANDIT should meet about midnight tonight.
(C.in C. W.A. 1603/3 to ARROW).

Your 1241/3. As HAVELOCK is required for Convoy O.B.A. ARROW is being ordered to detach one Corvette to escort WAZARISTAN.
(C.in C. W.A. 16D7/3 to A.C.O.S.)

Your 1603. Do not anticipate meeting WAZARISTAN until 0900/4.
(BANDIT 1900/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

Cancel my 1603 DOUGLAS is being sent to escort WAZIRISTAN Corvette detached is to rejoin convoy.
(C.in C. W.A. 1939/3 to ARROW).

GCZA WAZIRISTAN damaged by enemy aircraft and stopped in position 061 04'N., 012 09'W. at 1100/3.

Fleet tug BANDIT proceeding to assistance. Position at noon/3 059° 24'N., 006° 55' 56' W. Course 316° 7.5 knots. Proceed give protection to WAZIRISTAN and BANDIT.
(C.in C. H.F. 2108/3 to DOUGLAS).

Correct my 2108 for WAZIRISTAN read WAZIRISTAN. Word before course. 006° 56'W.
(C.in C. H.F. 2221/3 to DOUGLAS).

Mining.

1 (one) Sunderland will patrol near WAZIRISTAN from daylight 4th until about 1600/4.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2256/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Your 2102/3. Am proceeding. E.T.A. 1800/4.
(DOUGLAS 2352/3 to C.in C. H.F.)

Am standing by disabled WAZIRISTAN until tugs arrive.
(LORD MIDDLETON 2357/3).

Ramsgate bombed.

At 0905 today single enemy aircraft dropped salvo of 4 H.E. bombs on Ramsgate. Damage. (No naval casualties.)
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1150/3).

DIONE II (2660 tons bombed).

DE DIONE SECOND 55.40 N,14.23 W. bombed.
(Valentia Radio 1538/3 Port Patrick 1542/3, F.O.I.C. Belfast 1545/3).

Cancel my 0107/3 proceed forthwith to assist S.S. DIONE in 55° 40'N., 14° 23'W at 1648/today.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1718/3 to ASSURANCE.)

R.C. A/C over Firth of Forth.

Your 1547/30, and Admty. 1622/2. Request approx. heights of aircraft reported may be stated. Technicians at Fighter Command now examining your report.
(D. of L.D. 2050/3 to C.in C. Rosyth).

Mining.

Aircraft Mining in Thames Approaches.

One enemy aircraft machine gunned convoy laid parachute mine in porition 051 47'N10 001 28' 42" East second mine broke adrift from parachute and probably dropped approx. one mile N.W. of this position.
(WOOLSTON 0928/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Following has been read. LAP 321.
One enemy aircraft bearing 321° from EREBUS and EGLINTON in position 51° 45'N., 10.26'E.
(EREBUS 1333/3).

Mines dropped 012 B.6 buoy 2 miles at 1345.
(EREBUS 1352/3).

My 1352. Mines were dropped by Hostile Aircraft being chased by fighters.
(EREBUS 1404/3).

M/S 6 reports parachute mine dropped position 234 B.8 1.4 miles.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 0936/3).

Milford Haven, SOUTHERN CHIEF, damaged.

Cancel my 1810/2. Trawler fitted with S.A.gear detonated 5 mines this morning the last one putting her out of action. Approach Channel not yet been cleared.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1108/3).
Details of mines.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 17253).

My 1108/3. Trawler SOUTHERN CHIEF will be out of action for probably four days.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1751/3).

Western Approaches.

Owing to presence of shallow mines in Admty Mge. QZY 174 motor launches and motor gunboats are only entering this area for rescue work or if specially ordered.
(C.in C. W.A. 1217/3).

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Harwich.	Ground mine exploded 900 yds. astern of L.L.Drifter pulsing 51° 55'N., 1° 21.7E. Two destroyers half mile distant. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1253/3).
Sweeping Programme.	Request Fighter protection. For HARRIER and GOSSAMER. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1253/3 to C.in C. Nore).
Operation S.N.7.	My 1027/2. NIGERIA is to R/V with R.A.M.L. at 1000/5 in position 059° 39' N., 007° 34'W. (C.in C. H.F. 1334/3 to R.A.M.L. NIGERIA(.
Operation E.A.	Not now possible for mines to be laid during dark period, if Force is to be well clear of coast by daylight. Intend to postpone operation for the present and sail INTREPID and IMPULSIVE for Immingham. (C.in C. H.F. 1426/3).
Operation S.N.68.	Proposals. (R.A.M.L. 1428/3) See Operations Volume.
M A/S B.12 damaged.	Motor A/S boat 12 damaged by mine, extent of damage unknown at present, vessel is still afloat. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1544/3).
ALMOND (sunk 2/2). Milford Haven.	List of Survivors. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1546/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Operation B.8.50.	Expect A/S escort 1 Hudson during daylight hours also fighter escort 2 Blenheims from daylight to 1500 tomorrow Tuesday. (C.in C. Rosyth 1946/3 to TEVIOT BANK, MEYNELL).
Bristol Channel.	Owing to suspected mine laying no ships are to leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff or Barry and no ships are to sail from Swansea to eastwards. Incoming traffic is to anchor westward of Breaksea. Ships are not to enter Barry Roads. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 2116/3).

Enemy Intelligence.

HIPPER cruiser at Brest.	Very incomplete R.C. of Brest today failed to locate HIPPER Class cruiser. (D.D.I.C. 2155/3 to C.in C. H.F.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Coastal Convoys.

F.N.99. VORTIGERN sails as escort to F.N.99 at 0900/3.
(C.in C. Nore 0002/3).

F.S.2. 12 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0937/3).

E.N.66. (a) 0730/3. (b) H.M.T.'s STELLA, CAPELLA, ST. APOLLO extra escort H.M.T. CELIA additional escort JASON. (c) 34 ships, 20 with kites.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 0939/3).

9 M/V's. Request fighter protection.
(a) as in my 2141/2. (b) 1530/3 to dusk and daylight 4th to dusk. (c) Cover (d) as in my 2141/2.
(N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 0957/3 to H.Q.C.C. H.Q.F.C. etc.)

F.N.99. Postponed 24 hours, weather.
(C.in C. Nore 1010/3).

F.N.66. List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Methil,1022/3).

W.N.79. List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 1037/3).

F.N.96. Tyne ships arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1041/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

W.N.78. Arrived 1030/3.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1058/3).

E.N.65. Loch Ewe section arrived 1050/3.
6 Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1102/3).

O.B.280. To keep clear of possible U/Boat in 056° 00'N., 021° 00'W. O.B.280 steer direct for 056° 10' 025° 00'.
(C.in C. W.A. 1115/3 to HARVESTER for Cdre. PHILANTH, ARBUTUS, ERICA, CAMELIA)

O.B.A. Disperse in 026° 00'W., (C.in C. W.A. 1123/3 to HAVELOCK for Cdre, HESPERUS).

O.B.281. Loch Ewe section 1120/3. Eight ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1131/3).

F.S.S. My 1308/1/2 SNAPDRAGON will form additional escort for F.S.S. from the Outer Dowsing.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1140/3).

E.N.67.
W.N.80. Act as additional A/A escort to E.N. 67 sailing at 2130/4. On meeting transfer to W.N.80 due Cape Wrath 0500/6 and Duncansby 1550/6. Code word for E.N.67 USAGE and for W.N.80 MUTUAL.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1215/3 to FOWEY).

O.G.M.52. 1730/4 DERBY COUNTY, three.
(N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1220/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Western Channel night report.
9 Merchant Vessels A/S Trawlers LORD NELSON and CORNELIAN Falmouth to Dartmouth E.T.A. o'30. On Tanker A/S Trawler RUBY, Holyhead to Dartmouth E.T.A. 0900. 9 Merchant Vessels A/S Trawlers KINGSTON ANDALUSITE and VICTRIX Dartmouth to Hartland, leave 1630 etc. 7 M/V's, unescorted, various destinations.
(C.in C. W.A. 1335/3).

Code Words.

A.F.O. 82/41. Add to list on convoys Loch Ewe portions of HX, OB and WN Convoys. Code words SURVEY, REASON, OFFICE and call signs MHA, MHG, MHP respectively. These portions of above convoys and EN convoys will be known by the convoy letters followed by U e.g. WNU Convoy.
(D.S.D. 1351/3 "A" Message Home).

O.B.279. incorrect routeing.

Study of routes given to ships OB.279 after dispersal shows following ships were not routed in accordance with A.M.2235/12/40. ALHENA and EMPIRE CITIZEN routed by Liverpool, HOPEGRANGE routed by Oban and STANMORE routed by Belfast. As a result of this careless routeing a valuable ship has been torpedoed. Written report is to be rendered by N.C.S.O's Liverpool, Belfast and Oban as to why A.M.2235/19/12/40 was not complied with.
(D.T.D. 1405/3).

F.N.99.
F.N.100.

Intend to sail F.N.100 (fast) escorts VANITY and VORTIGERN at 0900/4 immediately followed by F.N.99 (slow) escorts HOLDERNESS and WOOLSTON. If weather too bad for slow ships in ballast to sail tomorrow intend to cancel F.N.99 and order HOLDERNESS and WOOLSTON to return to Rosyth with F.N.100.
(C.in C. Nore, 1430/3).

MOST SECRET.

8.2.1941.
Monday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

O.B.O.282.	0830/4/2. Escort AYRSHIRE. One ship S.S. SURAT. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1603/3).
EMX.106.	Sailed 1625/3. 7 ships 9 knots, 3 ships with kites. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1640/3).
W.N.79 (O)	Sailed 1430/3. Escort H.M.T. NOTTS COUNTY, 8 ships (3 kites). (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1801/3).
F.S.1.	Arrived all ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1809/3).
O.B.282.	Escort for O.B.282. HEATHER from Liverpool GEORGETOWN ANTELOPE ANTHONY ACHATES PICOTTEE SNOWDROP LADY MADELINE from Clyde and AYRSHIRE from Oban. (Capt: D., Greenock 1914/3 to C.in C. W.A.)
E.N.66.	E.T.A. Duncansby Head 0730/4 speed of advance 7.5 knots. (STELLA CAPELLA, 2000/3).
8 M/Vs.	Intend sailing at 1700/4 8 merchant vessels including one large tanker via St. Catherines E.T.A. Nab 0830/5 escorting A/S trawler ST. CATHAN and CAPE COMORIN. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 2004/3).
F.S.3.	Sailed 2300/3. 30 ships. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 2322/3).

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Ocean Convoys.

BHX.108.	BHX.108. List and destinations. (Navy Control, Bermuda, 1201/3).
HX.107.	Sailing telegram. (S.C.N.O. Halifax, 1451/3).
H.X.102.	Delayed by heavy weather and large alteration in route. URLA straggler sunk by torpedo, remaining ships now arrived. (D.T.D. 1646/3 to N.S.H.q. Ottawa). (959).
S.L.63.	Extract from sailing telegram as amended by Admiralty (D.T.D. 1835/3). Latest Q.Z.S. received before sailing No.203. Ends. (D.T.D. (723) 1835/3).
HX.104.	Sunderland will make landfall at daylight at Faroes then proceed to escort HX.104 until 1400. Provided aircraft locates convoy a second Sorties will be sent to reach convoy as soon after 1500 as possible and escort till dark. (C.in C. Rosyth 2204/3 to CHURCHILL, ARROW HOLLYHOCK AUBRETIA.
HX.105.	Expect A/S Air escort throughout daylight 4th first 2 sorties by 37 Hudson aircraft third sortie by Whitley aircraft. (C.in C. Rosyth 2246/3 to WITCH MONTGOMERY WILD SWAN CAMPANULA PIMPERNEL PERIWINKLE).
HX.105.	Meet. (List) (C.in C. S.A. 2257/3 to WITCH CAMPANULA, MONTGOMERY PIMPERNEL WILD SWAN PERIWINKLE.

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Military Convoys, W.S.6.

CITY OF MARSEILLES, sailing date (D.S.T.O, Liverpool 0940/3.) See Operations Volume. Re escort. (C. in C. H.F. 1117/3, 1502/3, 1341/3.) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.

PAME.	My 1744/1. Sailing postponed on account of weather. SHELDRAKE at Sunderland. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0937/3.)
H.M.T. HELIER II.	H.M.T. HELIER II on proceeding to sea today collided with L.M.S. Wharf, Larne Harbour, damage was done to wharf. (N.O.I.C. Larne 1500/3.)
S.S.EIBERGEN.	F.S.93. S.O.(I) Rosyth reports Yr.1736/2 EIBERGEN ran ashore off Sunderland. She is now in Sunderland Harbour. T.O.R. 2036/2. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1520/3)
A/S Drifter MIDAS sunk.	Regret to report loss of MIDAS as result of collision at 0330/today with drifter GIRL GLADYS, who was patrolling in company in Dungeness East Roads. Dungeness S.S. reported sighting MIDAS still afloat at daylight but search of area has been unsuccessful. Crew taken off without casualty. (V.A. Dover 1637/3.)
S.S.VANCOUVER.	Damaged in Loch Long requires immediate assistance. (TORBAY 1800/3.)
S.S.HEIRE.	Arrival 1755. Rescue Tug CAROLINE MOLLER towing S.S.HEIRE.(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1820/3.

Air Reports.

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Nation".

Your No. 1/3 of 1/1. Policy of H.M.G. re violation of territorial waters and use of force. (Hd. of M., 1034/3, to F.O.C. Force H.) See Operations Volume.

RESOLUTION.

My 1919/27 and F.O.C. N.A's 1758/30. RESOLUTION will be refitted at Portsmouth. F.O.C. N.A, requested to sail her for that port, passing South of Ireland. (Route.) (D.O.D.(H) 1206/3, to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.) My 1206/3. Code Word "Parts". (D.O.D. (H) 1231/3.)

Azores Patrol, OTUS, TUNA.

Position of S/M's at 0800/4 and movements for 24 hours. OTUS on patrol off Ponta Delgada. TUNA 041° 00' N. 020° 00' W., proceeding on surface to relieve OTUS speed ten knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1312/3.)

Information. American EXCALIBUR left Lisbon 31/1 Bermuda. American ANDREW JACKSON left Santander 31/1 for Baltimore. TUNA from U.K. is proceeding East San Miguel, to relieve you arriving on patrol A.M./6. (Capt. S.8, 1316/3, to OTUS.)

Spain.

Liaison delegation for Gibraltar (D.N.I. 1622/3 to N.A. Madrid.)

Air Report.

Daily Summary Operations. Flying curtailed owing to weather. (200 Group. 1700/3.)

/ST. LINDSAY.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic Contd.

ST. LINDSAY, Raider report.	20 miles South St. Michaels Azores ST. LINDSAY attacked by raider. (ST. LINDSAY, 2335/3.)
	Cancel my RRR 2335/3. (ST. LINDSAY. 0103/4.) ST. LINDSAY, British, 5370 tons, was ex-Convoy O.B.235. (D.O.R. 4/2.)

South Atlantic.

French Brigade.	F.O.C.N.A. 1334/2. Proposal in my 2153/31 no longer possible. Free French suggestion for alternative ships. (C. in C. S.A., 0145/3, to Admty.) See Operations Volume.
NORFOLK. DEVONSHIRE. DORSETSHIRE.	Arrivals 0700/3, F.O.C. 1st. C.S. in NORFOLK with DEVONSHIRE; 0730, DORSETSHIRE. (S.O.I.Freetown, 0826N/3, to Admty.)
COMMANDANT DOMINE, COMMANDANT DUBOC.	My 1336/30. COMMANDANT DOMINE should if ready accompany COMMANDANT DUBOC.(D.O.D.(F) 1101/3 to C. in C. S.A.)
POLYDORUS LISBETH. TUNISIA MADURA.	Overdue shipping. Following not arrived. Dutch ship POLYDORUS, Oban 14/1, due Freetown 28/1, Norwegian Ship LISBETH, Milford Haven, 8/1 due Freetown 29/1, British Ships TUNISIA, Milford Haven 8/1, due 29/1, MADURA, Mersey, 12/1 due Freetown 30/1. (Dummy) (S.O.I. Freetown, 1118/3, to Admty.)

/Flying.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

Flying Boats.

Re 3 Sunderlands leaving U.K. Freetown via Gibraltar and Bathurst when weather suitable.(26 (Signals) Group, 1150/3. to Cdr., Sierra Leone Area, Bathurst.)

Force Z.

My 1131/30. Cancel route from rendezvous Q, and substitute E.T.A. Freetown. (C. in C.S.A., 1255N/3, to KENYA, Force Z.)

My 1255/3. Leave Freetown at 1800/3with NORFOLK, DEVONSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, and proceed in general direction of Force Z so as to rendezvous in position 024° 55' N, 010° 45' W, about 0800N/7, Force Z expected to reach rendezvous Q. at 1700 B.S.T./5. (C. in C. S.A.,1250N/3 to 1st. C.S.)

Departure 1930/3 F.O.C. 1st. C.S. in NORFOLK with DEVONSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE in accordance with C. in C. S.A.'s 1250/3.(S.O.I. Freetown, 2155N/3.)

AFRICA MARU.

In addition to details referred to in your 1030/2, request S.O.(I) Capetown may report names of consignors and consignees and weights. Detain ships pending further instructions. (D.E.N.D. 1415/3 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.

My 1240/1 and N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1030/2. Ship was detained by Union Government on own initiative because of the following cargoes. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1543/3 to Admty.)

ADMIRAL SCHEER MOEWE.

Source of my 1711/18, states he saw decode of a telegram from Rio De Janeiro on table of German Consul this morning informing him that German ships ADMIRAL SCHEER and MOEWE are in this neighbourhood (N.O.) (Consul, Bahia, 1624/3, to Admty.)

/AFRIC STAR.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.

Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

AFRIC STAR. — Overdue shipping. British AFRIC STAR Montevideo departure 18/1, due St. Vincent 31/1 has not arrived. (S.O.1. Freetown, 1641/3, to Admty.)

CORNWALL. — Your 1553/12. Intended that CORNWALL should continue to be administered by you, but at present necessary for her to be operated by C. in C. E.I, in order to provide troop convoy escort on his station.(D.O.D. (F) 1547/3, to C. in C.S.A.

AFRICA MARU. — As log was not taken ashore and photographed whilst under examination, consider preferable not to take any action which may arouse suspicion and possibly hinder us from obtaining further operational intelligence. (C. in C. S.A., 1715/3, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

EMPIRE TROOPER W.S.S. PORT DINGER. — C. in C. S.A.'s 2153/31. F.O.C. N.A. requested to advise as to earliest possible arrival date of EMPIRE TROOPER at Lagos. As W.S.S. will not now arrive Freetown until (date) and will remain five days for watering etc.C. in C.S.A. is requested to advise whether date to be notified by F.O.C. N.A. is acceptable. C. in C. S.A. also requested to advise as to (a) proposed date of sailing of PORT DINGER, and (b) what ships will be used for the local French moves. D. of S.T. 1752/3 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.)

R.A.F. Freetown. — Re: headquarters, developements and liaison. (C.O.C., W.Africa, to W.O., 1905/3.) (D. of S.T. 1752/3 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.)

Bunkers, Freetown. S.L.S.68. — Your 2027/31/1. Collier TUNISIA not yet arrived. Delays in bunkering anticipated unless improvement in situation before 10/2. Intend to sail 4 ships of SLS 68? to St. Vincent for fuel sailing from there to join up with their convoy. (C. in C. S.A., 2359N/3, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Castel Benito bombed.

X 7091. Special Operational Summary. 7 Wellingtons 148 Sqdn., attacked Castel Benito Aerodrome night Feb. 2/3. At 1935 possible warship position 3318' N. 13 16 E. course South towards Tripoli. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 0720/3.)

Suez Canal D.W.I. Sweep. HUNTLEY sunk.

X.[illegible] Summary 238 up to 1200 hours 3/2.Feb. 2nd. Three sweeps by D.W.I. Wellingtons exploded one mine in Suez Canal between Kabrit and El Chatt. Night 1/2 Feb. two enemy aircraft believed Heinkel III sank minesweeper HUNTLEY, with torpedoes and bombs off Gatruh, 7 officers and 81 sailors saved. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1233/3.)

Landingcraft and Personnel.

Your 1615/24. Following craft are to be sent by freight to M.E. in addition to those carried in the three Glen ships and two Belgian carriers.Total personnel to be sent to the Middle East. Distribution of craft in M.E.(Head of M, 1238/3 to C. in C. Med.)

Bombardment of Land Targets.

Asking for a summary of experience gained with air and F.O.O. observation during ship bombardments of land targets, and any recommendations for improvement.(D.T.S.D.1534/3, to C. in C. Med.)

Malta Air Raid.

(H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1700/3.)

URSUS sunk.

Italian tug, sunk by 2/m, 31/1,(Consul, Split, 1840/3.) See Italian Merchant Ships.

/DERWENT.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

DERWENT HALL, Suez Canal Mined.

My 1092. Unexploded mine was counter-mined A.M.today.Shipping started moving from Bitter Lake to Suez. 5th ship in line, DERWENT HALL, was mined at 1505B, at Kilometres 135.8 Rudder blown off, after peak flooded,one minor casualty. Bow is embedded in East Bank, stern half way across Canal obstructing passage of shipping. Expect to get ship alongside bank thus enabling traffic to proceed tomorrow 4/2, and later in day towing DERWENT HALL to Suez. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1939/3.)

East Indies

Navigation Lights.

My 1522/9/1, A.M. 1854/17/1., and C. in C. S.A. 1103/20/1. 1. Consider that the only part of East Indies portion of Area Six B. in which it is desirable for Merchant Ships to burn dimmed Navigation Lights is North of 20°S and West of 47° E, and that ships routed through areas Six B and Five A between South Africa and Australia should be fully darkened notwithstanding instructions laid down in A M S I. 2. Intend also that dimmed Navigation Lights should be burned in Gulf of Aden West of 55° provided they are extinguished before making landfall at Perim. (C. in C. E.I., 06582/3, to Admty.)

CHRISTIAN HUYGENS.

D. of S.T. 1808/30, and S.S.T.O.Egypt 1919/30. S.N.O. Red Sea Force is requested to sail CHRISTIAN HUYGENS from Aden for Mombasa on 12/2 escorted by HECTOR. HECTOR is subsequently to escort CHRISTIAN from Mombasa to Durban. (C. in C. E.I., 0802/3, to S.N.O. Red Sea.)

/Operation.....

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

Operation "Canvas."

My 0650/Force T, (SHROPSHIRE and HERMES) will sail from Durban for Mombasa a.m./4, or a.m./5, at S.O.'s discretion depending on return of SHROPSHIRE ratings from hospital after epidemic and will take part in operation "CANVAS". SHROPSHIRE does not expect to leave more than 40 ratings behind. (C. in C.E.I.,10162/3, to Admty.)

BANKURA
BAMORA
BARPETA
SUISANG.

My 0532/2, and C. in C. Med.'s 0401/2. (No trace in W.R.)Four ships required in Mediterranean immediately. Unless there is special reason to the contrar BANKURA BAMORA BARPETA, are selected and should be sailed for Aden as soon as possible.(SUISANG). Request you wil report (SUISANG) expected date of arrival at Aden.A Earmark two further ships which may be required later. (C. in C.E.I., 10282/3, to S.S.T.O, India, N.O.I.C. Calcutta.)

NANA MARU.

Your 1030/2, (C. in C.E.I, 11342/3, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown),from information received from A.C.N.B. Melbourne ship J.G.J.M. is NANA MARU. (Radio traffic between J.G.J.M,AFRICA MARU, and Nauen W/T.)(C.in C.E.I 11342/3 to NOIC Simonstown.)

KANIMBLA.

My 1152/27, KANIMBLA is to leave patr and proceed Durban so as to arrive a. /5. (C. in C.E.I., 1242/3, to KANIMBL

/CAPETOWN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3. 2. 41.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

CAPETOWN. CAPETOWN is to leave Seychelles before dark 4/2, and proceed to Mombasa so as to arrive a.m./8. (C. in C. E.I., 1260Z/3. to CAPETOWN.)

Minesweepers. Your 0717/31. Request M/S group 109 be sailed from Durban to Mombasa calling at Dar-Es-Salaam, where oiler APPLELEAF, will be sent to top up with Fuel and water.(C. in C. E.I., 1256Z/3. to N.O.I.C, Simonstown.)

Force T. HERMES and SHROPSHIRE are to form Force T. (C. in C.E.I., 1310/3, to E.I, Station.)

HAWKINS. Admty 0300/22. and C. in C. S.A, 2163/2
EMERALD. Proposals for HAWKINS and EMERALD, re Operation "Canvas" and escort of W.S.5.B (C. in C. E.I., 1440Z/3 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

KARAGOLA. Your 1933/2, (As to cancellation of distress signal) Re KARAGOLA distress signal, yes. See My 1326/2/2.(C in CEI 1832 2/3 to Admty.)

B.N.14. CALEDON and KINGSTON. E.T.A. 0400Z/4. B.N. 14 ships arrive 0230Z/5. (CALEDON, 1725Z/3, to N.O.I.C. Port Sudan.)

Pilotage of Red Sea Force 1714Z. I rely on you to do this. Report at 0800Z/4, if not done.(CALEDON, 1845Z/3, to SHOREHAM.)

/E.S.F.I.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

B.S.F.I. S.N.O. Red Sea 1714Z/3. Am not in touch. Am endeavouring to overtake but must return at 0400Z to R/V with B.S.F. NORSE LADY routed 12 miles to Port Standard. (SHORTHAM, 1905/3, to CALEDON.)

My 1923/30. DOMINION MONARCH did not sail with B.S.F.1. (S.S.T.O. Egypt, 1735/3, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Inter-Iceland Air Service.	Netherland authorities considering establishment of a direct air service between Trinidad Curacao and Jamaica and request information whether this would be welcomed and necessary facilities given K.L.M. to use air port at Kingston. (Jamaica). (S.N.O. Curacao 1226/3 to C.in C. A.W.I.)
U.S.Navy request further information of ship movements.	Your No.1114/31.* Navy Department informs me that no instructions have been issued to N.A. (?) at Curacao other than to obtain information of movements of ships in Venezuela ports from ordinary public sources. Department is communicating with N.A. who is not accredited to Curacao. * (Requesting instructions given to U.S. Naval Attache Curacoa). (N.A. Washington 1239/3 to C.in C. A.W.I.)
Danish T.B's reported taken over by Germans.	Navy Department report Germans have demanded 12 torpedo boats of Danes. Danes have agreed to transfer eight under protest and less Armament. Delivery held up by ice. (N.A. Washington 1715/3).
MONOWAI AORANGI.	Departure Suva MONOWAI escorting AORANGI 0945Z/2. (S.O.(I) Wellington 0215Z/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.2.1941.
Monday.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

ATLAS.	Arrived 2/2. (Valencia, T.H.I. 2015/3).
Ships at Oslo.	B.2. report of arrivals at Oslo from Germany 31/12 to 22/1. (D.S.518.)

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

ALSINA.

My 1711/1 from private telegrams received Rio de Janeiro from passengers on board, ALSINA left Marseilles 15/1, Dakar 25/1 and is expected Rio de Janeiro or Santos 3/2 or 4/2. She is full of Jews. From secret source (A.1.) The idea of sailing any further French ships from Buenos Aires has been abandoned for the present. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1247/3, to D.N.I., etc.)

SONTAY
escort.

Your 2037/2, On completion of the escort duties referred to in your 2131/31, SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA is to be sailed for Suez. (D.O.D. (F) 1644/3, to C. in C.S.A.)

JEAN L.D.
SONTAY.

Admiralty 2256/29, and 2047/31, JEAN L.D. and SONTAY are still at Capetown and Durban respectively under Union Armed Guard. The High Commissioner is pressing the Union Govt., to issue immediately emergency regulations authorising requisition of any foreign ships. Thus objections to my re-assuming control of these ships. Request approval to be guided by recommendations of High Commissioner. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1810/3, to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

BURMA. 4675 tons (forced ashore at Puesto Santa Maria, North of Cadiz, during gale on night of 20-21/1.) Master reported to his owners on 27/1 that hull was split and a crack had appeared in Starboard Deck, feared he would have to abandon ship. (D.S. 517, 3/2.)

GINEA. 1542 tons, which took refuge at Palma, Majorca, on 11/6/40, is reported to have sailed for unknown destination, probably Genoa, on night of 30-31/1. (D.S.5184/2.)

URSUS sunk by S/M. Italian Tug URSUS towing floating battery attacked by unidentified submarine 1230/31, off Korcula outside Yugoslav territorial waters. Tug sunk and battery towed by Yugo Slav Merchant Vessel into Hvar, whence 24 hours later she was removed after Italian Tug arrived from Lagosta. Enemy casualties about 35 of which 9 dead buried at Hvar, and 20 wounded landed at Hvar and Korcula. 6 missing. (Consul, Split, 1840/3, to Admty.)

ISARCO. Susak arrival 2/2, ISARCO Trieste cargo unknown. (Susak, T.M.I.2000/3.)

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.
EMPIRE CITIZEN.
(torpedoed.)
2/2.

British, 4603 tons. Detach one ship to EMPIRE CITIZEN torpedoed in position 058° 12' North 023° 22' West at 0100/3. (C. in C. W.A., 0123/3, to LINCOLN.)

H.M.S.
CRISPIN.

(Ocean Boarding Vessel), 5652 N 2022 W, torpedoed 2339/3. (Valentia Radio, 2150/3.)

Following has been read. From CRISPIN.
S/M Distress.
56 54 N.
20 22 W.
Torpedoed.
(Scapa Base, 2239/3),
(Ship).

Following has been read. From CRISPIN.
56. 52 N. (? 54 N.) 20 22 W.
Sinking require immediate assistance.
(Scapa Base Ship, 2324/3.)
56, 52 N. 20 22 W. Abandoning ship.
(Plymouth, 2343/3.)

Following message read by Detling R.A.F. A/F D/F Station at 2251 B.S.T:- S S S S (CRISPIN) 56.52 N 20. 22 W torpedoed.
(C. in C. Nore, 2320/3.)

H.M.S. CRISPIN torpedoed and sinking after having left OB 280 with PHILANTE, ARBUTUS, and COPELAND. 8 miles from convoy when hit. PHILANTE returning to convoy. Am searching with CAMELLIA and ERICA. (HARVESTER, 2350/3.)

S/M's
Reported.

0846.

My D/F at 0846 Italian U Boat 045° 30' N. 003° W. (F.O.(S). 0902/3, to S/M's on Patrol Area B.)

/1521. By D/F.....

MOST SECRET.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

U BOAT CAMPAIGN.

1621. By D/F at 1621 B.S.T. Italian U. Boat in position 53° 30' N. 19° 00' W. radius 25 miles. (DDIC 1602/3)

1045/29. Following from Navy Department: U.S. Destroyer BIDDLE sighted periscope 1045/29, 8° 23' N. 79° 15' W. U.S. warships and planes searching. (N.A. Washington, 1700/3, to Admty.)

An enemy submarine has made a first sighting report of a large formation. (D.D.I.C./1909/3.)

By 1909/3, it is probable that formation reported was O.B.280 convoy or FURIOUS. (D.D.I.C. 1927/3.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.

German.

1 N.W. of Faroes outward bound.
1 in 52° 12' N. 23° 22' W, at 0001/3.
1 about 58° 30' N. 17° 30' W, at 0356/3.
1 about 53° 20' N, 21° 30' W, at 1736/2.
1 within 90 miles of 55° 30' N, 17°30' W.
1 within 100 miles of 50° N, 27° W,
1 arriving Lorient tonight.

Italian.

1 to N.E. of Azores.1 arriving Gironde today. No news of others which may be at sea. (D.D.I.C. 1413/3.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Bomber Command aircraft attacked Boulogne docks last night and again today. Ostend was also attacked last night.

Coastal Command aircraft last night attacked the HIPPER class cruiser in dock at Brest and estimate that they dropped mines in the target area.

C. in C., Nore expects night minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Thames Estuary to be resumed on or after 4/2. Fighter aircraft are to be kept clear and A/A ships will be stationed in three areas.

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy attacked on Northern Convoy Route

Convoy O.B. A was attacked this morning on the Northerly Convoy Route and WAZIRISTAN was damaged. This is the first occasion on which a convoy has been attacked on this route which was adopted on 29/1. No tug was available in the Western Approaches Command, and Fleet tug BANDIT was sent from Scapa, leaving no rescue, salvage, Fleet or ocean going tug in the Orkneys or Shetlands area.

Attack in Thames Estuary

SS THE SULTAN was bombed and sunk this morning in the Thames Estuary.

2 F.W. aircraft destroyed

Two enemy F.W. Condor aircraft have been destroyed by fire from light A.A guns of a D.E.M.S. and a rescue tug. It appears that these aircraft are very vulnerable to close range A.A. fire, even from light M.G's, and the Admiralty have given orders for the rearrangement of close range weapons in warships and D.E.M.S. as necessary to deal with the form of attack usually adopted by F.W. aircraft

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Operation E.A. — Forces sailed this morning to carry out Operation E.A. but the operation had to be abandoned on account of the weather.

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary and Harwich and Humber areas.

M/S Trawler ALMOND struck a moored mine and sank off Falmouth.

Newport and Barry Inlets were reopened today.

North Atlantic

Considerable delays are being experienced in the discharge of ships at Gibraltar.

Mediterranean

Operations "Picket" and "Result" — S.O. Force H reports today the result of operations "Picket" (Attack by F.A.A. on power plant in Sardinia) One Swordfish was lost.
Operation "Result" was abandoned owing to heavy N.N.W. gale.

Reinforcements — Details of reinforcements of the Mediterranean Fleet are given today.

Mines in Suez Canal — Further mines were exploded in the Suez Canal today.

East Indies

Operation "Breach" — S.O. Force K today reported the attack on Mogadishu by F.A.A. from FORMIDABLE completed. There was little opposition. All aircraft returned.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

SS EMPIRE CITIZEN a straggler from Convoy O.B. 279 was torpedoed shortly before midnight in the N.W. Approaches.
She had been incorrectly routed.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Finnish Ships for Reykjavik — Your 0.519 27/1. War Office agree provided you take special security steps to deal with incoming vessels. (W.O. 0345/2. to G.O.C., Iceland Force)

ARGUS D.L.Trials without Attendant Vessel — Your 0946/1. This is confirmed. (D.O.D. H. 1146/2 to ARGUS)

Tug Situation on Orkneys and Shetland Areas. — With despatch of BANDIT to assist WAZIRISTAN there is now no rescue, salvage, Fleet, or ocean going tug in Orkneys or Shetlands area to deal with casualties. Request situation may be reviewed. (C.S.V.O. Scapa 2155/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE — At 1130/2 (D.C. 1203/2 and 1539/2)

Scapa defence — Two indicator loops out of action. Request cable ship may be sent as soon as possible to effect repairs and lay H.D.A. "D". (A.C.O.S. 1110/2)

Progress Report 2/2 (R.A. Scapa 2015/2)

Movements

FURIOUS NEPTUNE JACKAL — Delayed by weather. E.T.A. your vicinity 2030. (JACKAL 1000/2 to FURIOUS)

My 1635/31. New R/V with FURIOUS, NEPTUNE and destroyers as 054° 30' N., 020° 40'W at 1100/3. B.S.T.
2. FURIOUS and NEPTUNE pass through 054° N 021° 40' W., to 056° N., 017° W., and thence as in my 1605/31. (C. in C., W.A., 1105/2 to JACKAL)

To avoid U-Boat reported in 052° 40' N., 021° 40' W., at 1217/1 proceed forthwith through following positions, to Clyde by Q.Z.S. 189 and 53. R/V for destroyers (as 1105/2). NEPTUNE to be detached to Scapa at position (n) (C. in C., W.A., 1449/2 to FURIOUS)

/My 1449.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

FURIOUS NEPTUNE JACKAL-Contd.	706. My 1447. Amended position U-Boat should be 052° N., 021° 40' W., (C. in C., W.A., 1747/2 to FURIOUS)
TUNA	712. Cancel my 1747. My 1449 position of U-Boat should read 052° 40' N., 021°W (C. in C., W.A., 1949/2 to FURIOUS)
Northern Patrol	Trawler Lines tonight. 4 trawlers. (AC.O.S., 1509/2)
WORCESTERSHIRE ISLE OF SARK	Intend sail WORCESTERSHIRE for R/V 180° Sanda 7' Times as follows. To reach R/V at 1700/5. VANOC and WIVERN escort. Air cover only arranged until dark/3. SS ISLE OF SARK sails in company for Falmouth. (C. in C., Portsmouth 1647/2)
EREBUS	Request fighter protection for EREBUS escorted by EGLINTON and QUORN sailing for Sheerness 1000/3. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1737/2 to C. in C., Nore)
C.S. 10	To avoid U-Boat reported in 053° 20' N. 021° 30' W., at 1736/2 proceed through 054° N., 025° W. and thence to R/V Q. (C. in C., W.A., 1957/2 to C.S. 10)

Operations

MINNIE DE LARRINAGA	Sailing postponed 24 hours owing to unsuitable weather. (C. in C., Nore, 0936/2.)
Operation N.C.	Will be carried out. Zero hour 0115/3. (V.A.Dover, 1415/2)
Operation P.W. 2.	Is to be carried out as soon as weather permits. (C. in C., Nore, 2242/2 to BEEHIVE)

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS

Submarines

Forth Sanctuary Bombing Restrictions	Ops./154.2/2. Institute total S.B.R. Forth Sanctuary immediately until 1900/2. (H.Q.C.C. 0945/2 to 18-16 Groups.)
TUNA	F.O. (S) 1132/24. TUNA enters N.A. Station and shifts W/T watch at 1200/4. Route. Not entering patrol area until a.m./6 (S.2. 1106/2)
SUNFISH	Leaves patrol 1800/2. Route to base. Reference A.M. 1748/20/1 entering into War Channel 0600/6. (S.6. 1155/2) You are not to close within 10 miles of Norwegian coast when to North of Lister. (F.O.S. 1303/2 to SUNFISH)
OTUS	A. On leaving Patrol after dark/5. proceed W. of San Miguel and through following positions to Portsmouth. D. C. in C., W.A., and C. in C., Portsmouth requested to keep OTUS informed of movements of own and enemy forces while in the Home Station. (F.O.S. 1639/2 to OTUS)
Positions	At 0800/3 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1742/2)

/Vulnerability...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Submarines

Forth Sanctuary Bombing Restrictions	Ops./154.2/2. Institute total S.B.R. Forth Sanctuary immediately until 1900/2. (H.Q.C.C. 0945/2 to 18-16 Groups.)
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Positions	At 0800/3 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1742/2)

/Submarines...

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy O.B.A.	Help needed for convoy ROBIN in 61° 22' N 10° 28' W., One F.W. (HAVELOCK 1000/2 1001/2)
WAZIRISTAN Damaged	WAZIRISTAN (British, 5135 tons) damaged by near miss and stopped in 061° 21' N., 011° 12' W. Request Tug. (HAVELOCK 1041/2 to A.C.O.S.)
	Is tug from W.A.C. being sent. (A.C.O.S. 1412/2 to C. in C., W.A.)
	My 1041. WAZIRISTAN has now 12 feet of water in Engine room and Boiler room. Has tug been sent. (HAVELOCK 1426/2 to A.C.O.S.)
	Your 1412/2. Can you send tug from Scapa as none available in W.A. (C. in C., W.A., 1635/2 to F.O.C.A.S.)
	BANDIT is being sent. (A.C.O.S. 1705/2)
	Sailing BANDIT (F.O.C.C.O.S. 2216/2 to HAVELOCK)
THE SULTAN	(British, 824 tons) Rescue Tug ST. MELLONS proceeding to assistance SS SULTAN reported bombed near B 7 buoy Barrow Deep. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1043/2)
	Steamer SULTAN bombed and sunk at 1000 today. Position about 51° 43' 24" N., 01° 26' 21" E. 12 survivors being brought to Brightlingsea 1230/2)
	Following Casualties. (details) (N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea, 1430/2)
OLYMPIER (Bombed 30/1)	SS TOWARD recovered boat load of survivors from OLYMPIER in 055° 30' N., 009° 10' W., at 0600. Survivors report another boat with 5 men adrift in area. (FOLKESTONE 1101/2)
	Boat load of survivors picked up at 0600/2 Another boat with 15 men adrift in vicinity. Search area as long as fuel permits. (C. in C., W.A., 1437/2 to KINGCUP and 1447/2 to Ships)

/Vulnerability....

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Vulnerability of Condor Aircraft

Two enemy F.W. Condor aircraft have been destroyed as a result of fire from light A.A. guns of a D.E.M.S. and a rescue tug. Interrogation of prisoners reveals that these aircraft are very vulnerable to close range A.A. fire even from light M/Gs. The two successes referred to were obtained through holding fire until range was point blank.

Form of attack preferred is generally from bow to stern. Height always very low.

Warships and D.E.M.S. should arrange that some of their close range weapons can fire forward if necessary transferring at least one M/G for this purpose. Kites and P.A.C. rockets are useful deterrents against these attacks. N.C.S.O.s to stress above points at Convoy conferences. (A.C.N.S. H. 1332/2: A.G.M. H. 80 AZ)

Dover Area

Fighters have been sent to assistance of SEMAPHORE (2 trawlers in Dover Area) (Nore W/T 1523/2)

May Island Proposed C.H.L.Station

Your 1547/30. Matter is being represented to R.D.F. Committee. (D. of L.D. 1622/2)

Dover Bombed

At 1517 todey a Dornier 215 dropped between 8 and 10 bombs on Dover. Damage. (no naval) (V.A.Dover 1841/2)

BARON RENFREW (Bombed 28/1)

Boarded ship at 1400. Weather rapidly deteriorating. 4 attempts to connect unsuccessful. Motor lifeboat lost. 5 men remainin on BARON RENFREW awaiting abating of weather in 055° 30' N., 011° 50' W approx. (TENACITY 1914/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Operation E.A.

Scapa departure ARETHUSA, AURORA, INTREPID, IMPULSIVE, MATEBELE, TARTAR 0830/2. (A.C. O.S., 0851/2)

One section of three Blenheims from Sumburgh will afford protection within effective Fighter range during daylight 3rd and 4th. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1046/2 to ARETHUSA)

My 2234/31. Does information in Chief of Staff (41) 54 dated 22/1 para 16 refer to area in which operation EA is taking place. (C. in C., H.F., 1155/2 to Admty.)

Your 1155/2. No. Area referred to is that given in my 1258/16/1. (D.D.I.C. 1559/2 to C. in C., H.F.)

Operation abandoned owing to weather. (ARETHUSA 2116/2 to C. in C., H.F.)

Humber

M/S Trawler sank 1 drifting mine of Dutch 7 horn type between 62 F and 62 G buoys on 30/10. Mine apparently laid recently (F.O.Humber 0903/2)

Operation B.S. 50

Procedure for TEVIOT BANK and MEYNELL Laying will begin at 1200/3 (S.O.M/L Immingham 0950/2)

Operation postponed 24 hours on account of gale warning. All times in my 0950/2 to be 24 hours later accordingly (S.O. M/L Immingham 1120/2)

Operation S.N. 7.

R.A.M.L. 0021/30 and 1612/31. NIGERIA is to provide close escort for 1st M.L.S and is to R/V with R.A.M.L. at entrence to port Z.A. at 1830/4.
(2) RODNEY screened by 4 destroyers is to sail from Scapa Flow p.m/4 to cover operation.
(3) Para 2 of my 1828/29 is cancelled.
(C. in C., H.F. 1027/2 to R.A.M.L.)

Thames Estuary

Mines detonated 1/2. (details) (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1125/2, 1140/2)

/Harwich.....

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

Harwich Area	One red mine detonated by LL drifters in 51° 55.3' N., 01° 22.2' W., at 1105 (F.O.I.C., Harwich 1159/2 and 1549/2)
Newport	Ships may now leave and enter Newport. (F.O.I.C., Cardiff, 1226/2)
TASMANIA (Mined 24/1)	Intend sailing TASMANIA accompanied by tug CHARING CROSS from Leith Roads for Middlesboro at 1600/3. Speed adjusted so as to provide TASMANIA with protection of F.S. 3 which leaves Methil at 2300/3. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1235/2)
Barry	My 1842/30. Ships may now enter and leave Barry inlet. Precautions. (F.O.I.C., Cardiff 1559/2)
Milford Haven	My 1117/31. Hope to open Milford Haven to all ships from 1400/3. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1810/2)
Spurn Point 2 mines detonated	Today LL Trawlers exploded 2 mines. (details) (F.O.Number 1814/2)
ALMOND Sunk	(M/S Trawler) Struck moored mine and sank in 50° 03' 30" N., 4° 55' W., 3 survivors. (F.O.I.C., Falmouth 1825/2)
War Channel Sweep	Details. (A.C.O.S. 2151/2)
Expected Minelaying by A/C in Thames Estuary after 4/2. Precautions.	Nore No332A/40/J. of 25/1/14. It is expected that night minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Thames Estuary may be resumed on or after 4/2. Request fighters may be kept clear of Thames Estuary at night from this date until further signal is made. Areas in which A.A. ships will be stationed nightly are as follows:-

/(A).....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Expected Minelaying by A/C in Thames Estuary after 4/2. Precautions Contd.

(A) Harwich. Area between lines joining Landguard point, Corton L.V., S.E. Shipwash buoy and E. 8 buoy.
(B) Barrow deep between E. 8 and E. 4 buoys.
(C) Thames Estuary East of 0° 39' E. between parallels of 51° 35' N., and 51° 25' N., (C. in C., Nore, 2244/2 to H.Q.F.C.)

Enemy Intelligence

Pencarci Light

Pencarci Light burning full brilliance on nights of 23rd 30th and 31st January. On 2nd latter nights light was burning from about 2000 onwards. (TAKU 2115/2)

F.E. 96

Number ships arrived (E.C.S.O. Number 1157/2)

[illegible] 270

2115/12 was not received. (C. in C., N.A. 1105/2 to Admty.)

E.E. 66

(A) 0730/3
(B) Escorts
(C) 40 ships
(D) Code Words:-
(E.C.S.O. Reddish, 1121/2)

O.E. 279

Diverse when Escorts leave. (C. in C., N.A., 1125/2)

F.E. 1.

Number ships arrived. (E.C.S.O. Number 1157/2)

E.E. 96

Arrived 1105/3. (E.C.S.O. Reddish 1206/2)

E.E. 98

1000/3 25 ships. (E.C.S.O. Thames 1209/2)

F.E. 98

Ships and destinations. (E.C.S.O. Thames 1308/2)

[illegible]

No fighter escort this evening, ships should be there. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1310/2)

/E.E. Thames

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Ocean Convoys

O.B. 281	(a) 0500/2/2. (b) Unescorted (c) 2. (N.C.S.O. Belfast 0815/2)
F.S. 100	Humber ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber 0935/2)
F.N. 96	Humber ships arrived (N.C.S.O. Humber, 0934/2)
F.S. 1	40 ships. (F.O.I.C., Tyne 0954/2)
O.B. 272	Your 1832/31. WELLINGTON reports your 2150/12 was not received. (C. in C., W.A 1109/2 to Admty.)
E.N. 66	(A) 0730/3 (B) Escorts (C) 40 ships (E) Code Words:- (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1121/2)
O.B. 279	Disperse when Escorts leave. (C. in C., W.A., 1125/2)
F.S. 1.	Humber ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1157/2)
E.N. 96	Arrived 1145/2. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1206/2)
F.N. 92	1000/2 25 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1229/2)
F.N. 98	Ships and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1301/2)
?	No fighter escort this evening, kites should be flown. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1340/2)

/N.N. 77.....

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Coastal Convoys-Contd.

W.N. 77	Arrived 1500/2. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1516/2)
F.S. 2.	Sailed 1445/2. 13 ships. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1549/2)
	Ships and destinations (F.O.I.C., Tyne, 1651/2)
F.S. 99	Arrived except THE SULTAN
F.S. 100	Arrived all ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1929/2)
F.S. 2	Sailed from Methil 1445 (F.O.I.C., Tyne 2108/2)
9 M.V's.	9 M/V's to sail 1630/3 for Hartland Cap and Bristol Channel ports. Escort. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 2141/2)
W.N. 79	1917/2. 17 ships. Eight with kites. Escorts. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 2150/2)

Ocean Convoys.

H.G. and S.L.	Your 1546/27 H.G. and S.L. (S) convoys are both for ships which can maintain a speed of 7½ knots in normal weather conditions. The slow speed of advance of some H.G. convoys is due to great effect of bad weather on the small ships comprising them. (D.T.D. 0107/2 to N.C.S.O. Freetown)
S.L. 62	Following ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban 0910/2)
H.G. 53	Ships and Destinations (V.A.C.N.A. 1243/2)
S.L. 62	Following ships arrived (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1538/2)

/H.X. 103.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Sunday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

ocean
~~Coastal~~ Convoys-Contd.

H.X. 103 — Following arrived. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1549/2)

S.L. 62
H.X. 103 — Following arrived (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1858/2)

O.G.
Convoys — Admty. 2017/21/12/40 slow ships for North Atlantic and West Indies ports may now also be included in O.G. Convoys. Such ships are not to be detached from the convoy until south of 50° N. (D.T.D. 1906/2)

S.C. 20 — Meet. (C. in C., W.A., 1919/2 to HARVESTER etc.)

B.H.X. 104 — (D.T.D. 2204/2)

Military Convoys

W.S. 6. — My 1932/1. Reformation in one group. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1526/2)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Sunday

CASUALTIES & DEFECTS

DESPINA	(Greek, 3016 tons) DESPINA asking for tug to enter Clyde with damaged rudder. (F.O.I.C., Greenock to Admty 0014/2)
ST. MELLONS	(tug) Refloated. (ST. MELLONS 0301/2)
	Arrived 1010/2. (F.O.I.C., Harwich 1017/2)
WOOLER	My 1315/1. LYNCH with WOOLER in tow. Sailed at 0150/2. (N.C.S.O. Weymouth 0812/2)
NAROCZ (Polish, 1795tons)	Returned from S.C. 20 with engine trouble (N.C.S.O. Halifax N.S. 0825/2)
EMMY	(Greek, 3895 tons) Returned from S.C. 20 for repairs. (N.C.S.O. Halifax N.S. 0825/2)
CHURCHILL	E.T.A. Reykjavik 1630 B.S.T. today. Request repairs to Gyro and Magnetic compass before proceeding to join convoy. Degaussing cable and A/S equipment also broken. (CHURCHILL 0955/2 to F.O.Iceland)
PALLAETER (Coaster)	(Belgian Coaster) Admty. 1323/13. For information. First begins:- ROSEMARY to C. in C., W.A. My position 055° 15' N., 005° 18' W. Have rescued crew of 5 from PALLAETER bound from Dublin to Ardrossan. She is derelict and drifting rapidly in S.E. direction. Suggest patrol vessels warn shipping. 2327/1 Ends. Second:- Keep sharp lookout. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/2 to WILD SWAN) Third: Endeavour to contact and warn shipping. Tug COCKSPUR has been ordered to proceed from Ardrossan. (F.O.I.C., Greenock 0104/2 to COILA) (F.O.I.C., Greenock, 1005/2 to Admty.)
JOHN BAKKE	Refloated and now in Rothesay Bay. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1151/2)

/CHULMLEIGH....

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

CASUALTIES & DEFECTS-Contd.

CHULMLEIGH (British, 5445 tons)	Aldergrove reports:- Aircraft reports CHULMLEIGH in 55° 45' N., 8° 25' W., at 1240/2. Destroyer standing by. When challenged, CHULMLEIGH made signal Londonderry reports me ashore. (F.O.I.C., Belfast 1450/2 to C. in C., W.A.,)
SALAMAUA	(British, 6676 tons) My position 1900 055° 32' N., 007° 21' W. SALAMAUA damaged in collision in company. V.A. states leaks under control. Wish to proceed to make good 9 knots. Request instructions. (LONDONDERRY 1900/2) Your 1900/ Continue in company of SALAMAUA. Trawler PENTLAND FIRTH will proceed with you off Belfast at 0800/3 approx. and escort her to Barry dock. When trawler joins return Londonderry. (C. in C., W.A., 2337/2 to LONDONDERRY)
HEIRE	(Norwegian, 807 tons) Sailed CAROLINE MOLLER to assist HEIRE. Lost propeller off Lands End. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1912/2)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CASTILLO ALMANSA. Spanish CASTILLO ALMANSA sent in to Gibraltar. Sighted steering 325 Ceuta to Teneriffe. Boarded in 030° 30'N. 013° 20'W. at 1000/1. Ex STANCROFT.

Cargo of empty oil drums. No navigert. Speed 8 knots. Routed through 064° 10 miles Cape Spartel. Should arrive Gibraltar daylight Tuesday.
(MARSDALE 0800/2).

Submarines. OTUS on patrol on surface Ponta Delgada. TUNA 044° N. 017° W. proceeding on surface to relieve OTUS speed 10 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1058/2).

W/T Traffic. F.O.C.N.A. 1102/2. See Operations Volume.

EMPIRE TROOPER. Date of sailing (F.O.C.N.A. 1334/2).

Discharge of ships at Gibraltar. Considerable delays are being experienced in the discharge of ships at Gibraltar. In view of vital necessity for quick turn round of shipping request you will consider in conjunction with the Military and Shipping Authorities any arrangements that can be made to expedite matters.
(D.T.D. 1721/2 to F.O.C.N.A.).

ORANGE LEAF. ST. DAY. Recall Oiler ORANGE LEAF and Fleet Tug ST. DAY.
(S.O. Force H. 1835/2 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Operations "Picket" & "Result". Operation PICKET. 8 aircraft in attacking force experience heavy A.A. fire along approach valley and intense at target. Weather conditions bad over land. Three torpedoes probably hit dam. Results unobserved. One Swordfish failed to return.

RESULT abandoned owing to heavy N.N.W. gale.
(S.O. Force H. 1922/2).

War Diary. 2.2.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

HAVKONG. Overdue shipping cancel my 1006/1 HAVKONG arrived Durban. (S.O.(I) Capetown 0910/2).

BRIDGEWATER. towing S.S. GOVERNOR. Your 2055/1 Continue to tow to Lagos. (C. in C. S.A. 0911/2 to BRIDGEWATER).

Cancel my 0911/2. Leave Governor at Takoradi and proceed Lagos. (C. in C. S.A. 1037/2 to BRIDGEWATER).

AFRICA MARU. Suspicious Ship. Re. S.O.(I) Capetown's 1210/1/2/41. Ship's W/T log shows communications received from NAUEN practically every other day. The ship has also passed traffic to NAUEN. Received on Frequencies on 06232/25/1 on 8300 kc/s, Simonstown heard a ship JGJM (Unlisted) calling AFRICA MARU bearing 285° Class 2. AFRICA MARU replied bearing 265° Class 2, but no traffic heard by us. These transmissions were not recorded in the log under examination. It is suggested AFRICA MARU may have been retransmitting raider signals thus giving a false position by D/F bearings. Ship is now being held at Capetown as part of cargo is consigned by firms on Statutory List. It might be possible to photograph the W/T operators log with a view to translation but this cannot be done without suspicion of our motive. Request immediate instructions. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1030B/2).

WEIR BANK. Overdue Shipping. My 1011/1, WEIR BANK arrived Capetown (S.O.I. Capetown 1117/2).

DELHI. Departure 0900/2 DELHI in accordance with C. in C. S.A. 1731/1. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1141/2).

/CAPETOWN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

CAPETOWN.
CASTLE.

D. of S.T. 1744/27/1 CAPETOWN CASTLE proceeding Capetown not Durban. Adty 0303/22/1, 1000 tons bagged maize loaded Capetown October in lower holds now overstowed with military stores and 20 ton lift in number 2 hold. Ship estimates three days required discharge maize and reload stores.
(C. in C. S.A. 1321/2 to D. of S.T.).

DRAGON.

Departure 1800/2 DRAGON in accordance with C. in C. S.A.'s 1729N/1.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1819N/2 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

Reinforcements.

1st S.L. 0028/2, 0138/2. See Mediterranean Volume.

BANKURA.
BAMORA.
BARPETA.

Your 1508/1/2 Yes please.
(C. in C. Med 0753/2 to C. in C. E.I.).

R.C. of
Taranto etc.

I.7S 2/2. My 1.77 1/2.
Photos show following: Treat with reserve.
(H.Q. Med. 1030/2).

SANDICHIARA.

Attacked off Petzorai 30/1 (See Italian
(S.O.(I) Alexandria 1143/2). Merchant Ships)

Mines exploded
in Suez Canal.
Valona bombed.

5 sweeps of Suez Canal by 2 Wellingtons exploded 3 mines laid by German aircraft night 29/30 Jan. between Ismailia and Bitter Lakes. R.C.'s reported 17 included 7 large ships Benghazi and Benina aerodrome almost deserted.
1/2 5 Blenheims bomed targets at Valona.
(H.Q. R.A.C. M.E. 1226/2).

Suez Mining

My 1931/1. Aircraft exploded one mine in canal today between Geneffe and Shallufa Red Polarity. One additional unexploded mine discovered in same section in shallow water. Traffic delayed until this is dealt with.
(S.B.N.O. Suez 1902/2 to Admty etc).

/DORSETSHIRE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (contd).

DORSETSHIRE hospital ship bombed.

Report details of bombings of Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE.
(C. in C. Med 2017/2 to R.A. Alexandria).

Enemy Mines DORSETSHIRE bombed. HUNTLEY sunk UPHOLDER Submarine success. S.S. DESMOULEA torpedoed.

Situation report. Enemy minelaying activity by air developing. Anticipate Canal reopen to traffic 2/2. Mines believed magnetic laid 0630/1 at Sollum Enemy air attacks also being made on Coastal traffic and Western Desert ports. Egyptian Transport Sollum carrying 746 prisoners attacked off Sidi Barrani 1830/31 and beached 11 prisoners killed 13 missing. Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE bombed at 1850/31 in Gulf of Sollum and again at 0630/1 in (Sollum, Sidi Barrani) some damage from near miss. HUNTLEY sunk 1800/31 30 miles West Mersa Matruh possibly by aircraft torpedoes no details yet. Clearance of Derna Harbour proceeding with raising the landing army supplies there 2/2. UPHOLDER sank 2 merchant ships 8000 and 5000 tons East coast Tunisia 0430/28 and 1620/30. Aircraft saw explosions in 10000 tons ship off Tripoli 29/1 still outside harbour 31. One heavily down by bows with lighters alongside. British tanker DESMOULEA carrying light oil to Greece torpedoed possibly by destroyer or E-boat in 035° 31'N. 025° 34'E. at 0400/31 towed to Suda Bay by DAINTY, cargo undamaged.
(C. in C. Med., 2149/2).

Enemy Report.

From D/F bearings 2 Italian warships (All call sign 4 G Q and 9 G A) were in a position some 30 miles S.W. of Corfu at 1330 G.M.T./2.
(Capt. O.S. Alexandria. 2210/2).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

TROILUS's raider report orders to Force K.	Your 1440Z/1. In view of my 0103/30 and 1710/31 diversion of Force K. not approved as raider may be anywhere by the time Force K. gets to position of TROILUS. (1st S.L. 0027/2 to C. in C. E.I).
TROILUS suspicious ship report cancelled.	My 1940/1 TROILUS Cancelled message in accordance with Adty message DV at 1346Z/2 It appears she was frightened of Dutch ship ALPHARD (German built). (C. in C. E.I. 1056/2).
Operation by Force K.	Re Adty 0027/2 proceed now to Aden so as to arrive A.M./5 Mogadishu Sweep is cancelled. (C. in C. E.I. 0056Z/2 to ?S.O. Force K).
	S.O. Force K. 0225Z/2 C. in C. E.I. 0248Z/2, 0442Z/2 See Operations Volume. Operation completed (S.O. Force K. 2055Z/2) See Operations Volume.
CARLISLE, defect.	CARLISLE has reported lower half of starboard "A" Bracket Bush missing. Being sailed for docking Bombay. (C. in C. E.I. 0812/2).
SHROPSHIRE.	My 0830Z/1 total cases 124 Epidemic Dying down. Details. (SHROPSHIRE 1000Z/2).
Force T.	My 0738/30/1. As it is desirable for force T. to operate on trade route as soon as possible, intend ENTERPRISE to escort W.S.5A. to latitude of Port Sudan only, then return to Aden (corrupt group) and as soon as convenient be sailed to Mombasa. Presume suitable escort can be provided for W.S.5A to Suez. (C. in C. E.I. 1200Z/2 to S.N.O. Red Sea).

/S.S. ARAGOLA.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

SS JARAGOLA
Raider Report

995. (1) British ship JARAGOLA made a Q distress signal at 1020 G.M.T./2 in 001° 36' S., 049° 59' E.
(2) Message was cancelled by G.R.Z.H. at 1155 G.M.T. 2nd used Q.T.A. Transmitter believed same as at 1020 report. (C. in C., E.I., 1236Z/2)

Ship sighted was CAPETOWN,(see 1824/4)

My 1236/2. Ship cancelled route instructions in accordance with Admty. Message D.V. at 1300 G.M.T./2. (C. in C., E.I. 1326/2)

Your 1236Z/2 and my 1949/14/12 to G.B.M.S. Are you satisfied as to genuineness of cancellation. (D.S.O., 1933/2 to C. in C., E.I.)

CAPETOWN, orders.

2. Proceed to Port Victoria Seychelles so as to arrive about 0600Z/4. (C. in C., E.I., 1750Z/2)

ALEXANDRE ANDRE

Belgian tanker. Re using (D.T.D. 1720/2 to R.A. Malaya)

Kismayu

Photographic R.C. of Kismayu shows 16 ships on 30/1. (C. in C., E.I., 1936Z/2, to Admty.)

America & West Indies

Suspicious Ship reported by GLOUCESTER CITY

The following has been read. QQQQ 51 45 N 41 29 W GLOUCESTER CITY suspicious vessel closing. (Lands End Radio 0034/2)

GLOUCESTER CITY 51.45 N., 41.16 W. Cancel my QQQQ 0034/2 Vessel has disappeared from sight ends. (Valentia Radio 0139/2, GLOUCESTER CITY T.O.R. 0240/2, 0252/2)

BRAZIL

Your 1157/25/1. Following reply was sent to Fairmiss 1210/25- local agents report ship diverted from Bahrein Island to Galveston, E.T.A. early in February. (Galveston, 0955/2)

/LAUREANT MEADS.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

LAURSANT MEADS	My 1513/29 (Belgian ship LAURSANT MEADS, aground in Kingston Harbour) Examination by divers revealed no damage. Cargo reloaded intact and ship sailed 1/2 for Halifax convoy. (N.O.I.C., Kingston, 1205/2)
Bermuda Contraband Examination	Your 1945/30. Examination and detention of passengers in ships and aircraft calling at Bermuda has always been a function of Colonial Government and is exercised by custom officers on authority of Governor, who states he is unable to allow control to leave his hands. Colonial Office telegram No 12 of 4/1 only authorises Naval control in ships which are brought in or come in solely for contraband control. Suggest Admiralty confer with Colonial Office with a view to issuing instructions to all colonies where contraband control bases are or will be established. Following points should be made clear. Propose all communication from Imperial Government on these subjects to be sent through Admiralty to C. in C., America & West Indies at Bermuda or N.O.I/C at other ports. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1244/2 to Admty.)
Raider Report	Surface raider reported in position 033° 55' N., 030° 05' W., at 0320/1 (F.O.S. 1313/2 to TUNA)
CHRISTIAN HOLM SCANDIA	My 1825/7. Sparks reports CHRISTIAN HOLM and Scandia sailed either p.m./1st or today and that British Consul has kept you informed. Route as in your 1631/8 speed 7 to 8 knots. (D.T.D. 1830/2 to C. in C., A.W.I.)

Australia

SS SUVA	Your 1826/29/1. SUVA departed Noumea 2/2 due Vila 3/2. (A.C.N.B. 0754/2 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

PORTLAND

PORTLAND which left Talcahuano at 0220Z/30 has 14 days fuel but this cannot be relied upon and ship may be proceeding Eastwards or Westwards. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1222/2 to Admty., etc.)

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS

SANDICHIARA
Attacked
ESTERINA
ALBACHIARA
GUISEPPE DORMIO

Split reports:- Master of Yugo-Slavian vessel reports having observed SANICHIARA (Sicilian) attacked off Petrovac afternoon 30/1 with 2 torpedoes but both missed. She is now at Bar (?Banare) C. 2.
Following are now at Dubrovnik loading:- ESTERINA, ALBACHIARA and GUISEPPE DORMIO, Collier motor schooner also there loading for San Giovanni. (S.O.(I) Alexandria 1143/2)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS

SONTAY,
Escort.

Your 2105/31/1 and 2256/29/1. With concurrence of S.N.O. Free French have approved SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA escorting SONTAY from Durban to Simonstown. My 2131/31/1 suggest if not required for other duty she should escort to Freetown if desired to send ship there. (C. in C., S.A., 2037/2 to Admty.)

MENDOZA

My 2357/1. MENDOZA's cargo as follows (list) (C. in C., S.A., 2355/2, to Admty.)

Following passengers are air France staff recalled to France. Wish to proceed to Canada. (C. in C., S.A., 2359/2)

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

W.B.WALKER — Forepart of W.B.WALKER should be sunk. Make every endeavour to find and salve after part. (Admlty. Devonport, 0029/2 to ASSURANCE)

Re my 2159/1 and 0029/2 W.B. WALKER broken in half in 055° 59' N., 015° 51' W., on 29/1. ST OLAVES and ASSURANCE searching for after-part which was reported salvable position of fore-part 055° 27' N., 016° 28' W., at 2159/1. (C. in C., W.A., 1047/2 to ANEMONE)

Have carried out widespread search in company with SAINT OLAVES including position given by G 22 for after part of W.B.WALKER without result my position 055° 20' N., 015° 20' W., 045° 4 knots. (ASSURANCE 2000/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

EMMAPLEIN — Air search under favourable weather conditions has failed to locate EMMAPLEIN which has probably sunk. Further search will be carried out 3/2. (A.C.O.S. 1817/2)

EMPIRE CITIZEN — Following has been read. 58 R 12 N 23 R 22W EMPIRE CITIZEN torpedoed by S/M. (Lyness 2359/2)
British, 4684 tons, a straggler from Convoy O.B. 279 (D.O.R. 3/2)

Submarines Reported

0900/29
1730/29 — Captain E.C. Marsden survivor ex URLA reports whilst in boat 0900/29/1 approx. 054° 54' N., 019° 00' W., sighted two enemy submarines and at 1730 sighted another submarine heading west. (N.C.S.O. Oban 1510/2)

1339 — By D/F at 1339 B.S.T. Position of German Unit, possibly U/B was approx. 53° N., 20° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C., 1419/2)

/1512.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported-Contd.

1512 — At 1512 by D.F. enemy submarine in 062° N 003° W. (F.O.S/M's 1646/2 to s/m's area A)

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions — German: 1 within 150 miles of 58° N., 20° W
possibly 1 within 60 miles of 55° 30' N., 21° W.
1 within 60 miles of 54° 30' N., 17° 30' W
1 within 60 miles of 53° 30' N., 21° 30' W
possibly 1 within 100 miles of 49° 30' N., 27° W.
1 South of Ireland homeward bound.
1 to N.E. of Azores.
No news from Cape Verde area

Italian: No news from Canaries area
1 in Bay of Biscay patrolling
1 about 46° N., 5° W., bound for Gironde
1 in N.W.Approaches whereabouts unknown.
(D.D.I.C., 1315/2)

U-Boat Dispositions. German one South of Ireland homeward bound Italian one in Bay of Biscay patrolling one in about 046° N., 005° W., bound Gironde. (F.O.S., 1534/2 to S/M's Area B.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

1.2.1941
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Bomber Command carried out no operations last night on account of bad weather.

Enemy Air Activity

No attacks on shipping are reported today.

Mining

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary and off Liverpool.

North Atlantic

A surface raider was reported at 0320 today in 33.55 N., 30.05 W. (300 miles south of the Azores) shelling an unknown ship.

Ocean boarding vessel MARSDALE today intercepted SS CASTILLO ALMANSA (Spanish 1407 tons with a cargo of empty oil drums, some 200 miles N.E. of Canary Is. and is sending her in to Gibraltar under armed guard.

South Atlantic

Raider

There is still doubt of the identity of the 2 enemy ships which sank EURYLOCHUS on 29/1, but some evidence indicates they may have been the pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER and and armed merchant raider.

DORSETSHIRE left Freetown today to cover S.L. and S.L.S. convoys and to be within supporting distance of NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE

/MENDOZA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

1.2.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

South Atlantic-Contd.

MENDOZA — DRAGON arrived at Freetown escorting the French MENDOZA (intercepted 13/1 and boarded 18/1)

Tentative programme for flying boat and other additional air units in West Africa is contained in Admty. 1605/1.

Shipping route past Cape Verde Islands. — Shipping is being routed to eastward of Cape Verde Islands until further orders.

Mediterranean

Operation M.C. 7. — A battle squadron and EAGLE and a force of cruisers and destroyers under V.A.L.F. left Alexandria today to create a diversion in the Eastern Mediterranean to assist operation "Result" and to cover convoy movements in the Aegean.

Mining of Suez Canal — Wellington aircraft today exploded 3 mines in the Suez Canal between Lake Timsah and Great Bitter Lakes. Traffic has been resumed in this section.

and Sollum — It is believed that magnetic mines were laid at Sollum early today.

Second attack on DORSETSHIRE — Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE was bombed again today off the coast of Egypt and was damaged.

Air Attacks on Malta — Two German aircraft raided Malta last night and dropped bombs without causing any damage or casualties.

Valona Bombed — Five Blenheims bombed targets at Valona today.

/Air.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

1.1.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

Air Situation

H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., today sent the Air Ministry an appreciation of the German air position in the Mediterranean.

German transport aircraft continue to operate between Sicily, Libya and probably Sardinia.

East Indies

FLAMINGO and PARRAMATTA left Aden last night and early this morning respectively to meet Convoy B.N.F. 1. (troops and stores for Middle East)

The British TROILUS made a "Q" distress signal about midday today from a position near the Seychelle Islands. Force K (FORMIDABLE and HAWKINS) have been ordered to this position from the vicinity of Mombasa and CAPETOWN from further north. (The message was cancelled later. The German-built Dutch SS ALPHARD was the cause of TROILUS's suspicions.)

Three Blenheims bombed Assab today.

MOST SECRET.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

ARGUS. Deck Landing Trials.
Your 1544/31.
Request confirmation that D.L.T. is to be carried on without an attendant vessel.
(ARGUS 0946/1 to Admty).

Troop Convoy A/S Escorts.
Cancel Admty's 1355/31.
(D A/S W 1325/1).

Operation RUBBLE.
Keen desire here to repeat. Request early advice as to whether repetition possible. Following points should be borne in mind.
(N.A. Stockholm 1555/1 to D.N.I.)
See Operations Volume.

Defence of United Kingdom.

Clyde. Restriction of Lighting.
Reference report of meeting held 20/1 by District Commissioners to discuss Glasgow and Clyde-side lighting.

Request that immediate measures may be taken.

(a) To extinguish or effectively screen, on receipt of purple warning, all lights on shore which are the direct responsibility of the Admiralty.

(b) (i) To reduce drastically the power of riding lights in the anchorage, enforcing penalties for infringement.

(ii) To improvise method, by sound or light signal on shore, for extinguishing all riding lights on receipt of the purple warning.
(A.C.N.S.T. 1659/1).

Movements.

As Milford Haven is closed proceed direct to Cardiff.
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 0055/1 to ASSINIBOINE).

KELLY KIPLING.
Sailed from Plymouth 1912/31.
(C.in C. W.A. 0307/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (Contd.)

KEPPEL.	Sailed from Scapa 0310. (A.C.O.S. 0315/1).
ESKIMO ECLIPSE.	Sailed Scapa 0820. (A.C.O.S. 0847/1).
PEGASUS.	Arrived. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1151/1).
Northern Patrol.	Trawler Lines tonight. (A.C.O.S. 1504/1).
JACKAL.	Entered, fuelled, and sailed. (Capt: D. Londonderry 1530/1).

Operations.

Operation N.C.	Will be carried out, zero hour 0045. (V.A.Dover 1355/1).

Submarines.

TIGRIS.	Intend to sail TIGRIS escorted by LA MOQUEUSE at 0845/3 for vicinity Wolf Rock. E.T.A. 0200/5. Thence TIGRIS to patrol LA MOQUEUSE to Plymouth. (S.S. 1134/1).
Positions.	At 0800/2 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1634/1).

British Air Activity.

801 Squadron.	Six aircraft of 801 Squadron proceeding now to St. Eval to arm and stand by. (St. Merryn 1112/1 to R.A.N.A.S.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

Patrols.

Patrol UNST will not be flown today as no aircraft available. Patrol FAIR delayed until about 1500.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1124/1 to C.in C. H.F.

My 1124 Patrol FAIR cancelled for today.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1352/1 to C.in C. H.F.)

961. Air searches tomorrow. A/S patrol between Butt of Lewis and 56° 40'N., 6° 10'W. throughout daylight. Escort for convoy O.B.A. from 0930.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1924/1).

253 Squadron.

A.200 1/2. Admiralty 1232/19. Arrangements are being made to transfer 253 Squadron to Kirkwall Sector as soon as possible. Date of move will be notified in a further signal. Regretted that it was not possible to receive (?253) Squadron on 31/1 owing to accommodation difficulties.
(H.Q.F.C. 2110/1 to Air Ministry).

Enemy Air Activity.

STAD ARNHEM.

Arrived S.C.19 Convoy.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast 0009/1).

Amber Fireball seen.

Bearing E.S.E. at least 10 miles at 0616/2.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0620/2.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

PANDION (Bombed 28/1.)

PANDION broken in two. Gale during the night. Unable do (anything further?) Returning Cambeltown.
(SALVONIA 0800/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BELGIA (Bombed 27/1).

Harwich E.B. 1st Departure. Rescue Tugs ST. MELLONS and KENIA and PM/S QUEEN EMPRESS at 1111. Salvage duties on S.S. BELGIA.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1115/1).

Failed to move BELGIA. ST. MELLONS caught grounded near BELGIA. Expect to get off Next high water. KENIA returning to harbour.
(ST. MELLONS 1707/1).

S.S. PANDION (Bombed 28/1).

Anchored Close to S.S. PANDION in Loch Swilly and sent party aboard to prepare cable for slipping. On approaching vessel rifle shots were fired at the boat. On boarding the vessel it was found impossible to get on to the fore deck owing to the sniping from the shore. After about thirty minutes it was decided that it was hopeless to try to work on board in exposed position and the party left for SALVONIA.

On the way back two heavy fusilades of about some twenty shots each were fired at the boat from the shore at an approx. distance of 1200 yards. There were no casualties. Time from 1715 to 1815.
(SALVONIA 1930/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BARON RENFREW.

TENACITY reports BARON RENFREW in 56° 20'N., 11° 50'W at 1800/1. Weather unfavourable for boarding. Endeavour to locate and escort to Clyde.
(C.in C. W.A. 1905/1 and 2303/1 to CANDYTUFT).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Sweep by 11th M/S Flotilla.

My 1832/31. Flotilla sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0435/1).

My 0435/1. Operation postponed Flotilla returned.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1000/1).

Possible Enemy Mines off Portland.

Plots received from Worth Maltravers between 0310 and 0450 of a vessel proceeding at speed of 6 to 7 knots indicate the possibility of a line of mines having been laid on an approx. bearing of 126 degrees from Portland Bill distance 5 to 12 miles depth of water 25 to 27 fathom

Two Minesweepers will be sent from Portland to search area today.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0805/1 to C.in C. Portsmouth).

My 0805/1, interrogations of Master of Tug LYNCH shows that plots reported can now be satisfactorily accounted for by his movements while on passage from Dartmouth to Weymouth.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1320/1).

Aberdeen Area.

My 2001/30/1. Position regarding Mines and G.E.F. Aberdeen Sub Command, up to 1800 31/1/41, since my 2001/30/1.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1142/1).

Experimental S.A.Gear in Destroyer.

A/M 1810/24 and A/M 0123/31.
TYNDALE has been detailed.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1154/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Harwich. 2 Mines detonated by L.L. Trawlers.	2 mines reported dropped 1346/31 by Puffin were detonated in position 51 55.9'N., 01 26.2'E and 51 56'N., 01 24.7' E. at 0830 and 1000 respectively by L.L.Trawlers, both double pulsing. First mine red, second unknown. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1204/1).
Sunk Head Buoy. 2 Mines dropped on 31/1 by enemy aircraft.	On entering harbour today Master of S.S. GRASLIN reports seeing five mines dropped by aeroplane at 1400/31/1 about 2 mines W.S.W. of the Sunk Head Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1241/1 to C.in C. Nore).
GOSSAMER SUTTON.	Arrived 1247/1. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1300/1).
Thames Estuary.	Group Officer reports one Blue mine detonated by L.L.Trawlers at 2115/31, in position 041° B.4 Buoy 1.4 miles. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 1340/1).
	Group Officer L.L.Drifters reports two Red Mines detonated in the following positions:- (a) At 0914/1/41 270° No.2 Sea Reach Buoy 3 cables. (b) At 1220/1/41 270° No.2 Sea Reach Buoy. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 1815/1).
	My 1815. Position of these mines was swept over five times previously to detonation during the day. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 2310/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

B.S.50.
MEYNELL.

Request you sail MEYNELL to Humber to act as escort for B.S.30.
(C.in C. Nore 1730/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

Firth of Forth.

Firth of Forth latest Searched Channels Cropesa as follows. Drifting mines continue to be reported off East Coast.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1845/1).

Liverpool.

Mine report to 1800/1. Total of 3 self detonated as follows:-
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2154/1).

My 2154/1. Add 2 self detonated approx. 180° Bar Light Vessel 1 mile. 1 self detonated approx. 180° Formby Light Vessel 1 mile.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2315/1).

Enemy Intelligence.

Finnish steamship BRITA THORDEN which arrived here last night was stopped by two German armed trawlers 30/1 just outside territorial waters off this port and taken in Vardo but released next day.
(Petsamo 1837/1 to D.N.I).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Miscellaneous.

Ships not receiving signals.

Your 1949/31. noted. According to my reading of S. 2/41 para. 14 thence ships were quite wrong in keeping area B wave. They were not escort to an ocean convoy and were well inside Area A.
(A.C.C.S. 1052/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

Swiss Govt. Charters.

Your 1716/98/41. H.M. Govt. have no objection in principle to ships being chartered to Swiss Govt., for this trade, provided of course that they are Swiss warrant holders. Trade to Switzerland will not be permitted to take place via Italian Adriatic ports and it will be a condition of allowing ships to engage in this traffic that no other ships under their ownership trade to enemy, or enemy occupied or controlled territory.
(1666/2 to A.N.A. Belgrade).
(End of M.)

Routeing Instructions.

Desired to institute some check as to whether Masters adhere strictly to their routeing instructions. Periodically routeing Instructions should be compared with secret logs. If any serious divergence is detected a brief report should be telegraphed to Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1676/2 to A.I.S. 45 and 47).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Route "Calf".

For N.C.S.O's.
My 1905/6/1. Following signal has been made by C.B.M.S. to ships in Areas 1 6A and 9. (Begins) Route CALF (Ends) Until further orders route to be followed is to be to Eastward of Cape Verde Islands.
(D.T.D. 0008/1 to A.I.C. 47).

Route CALF.
(D.T.D. 0009/1 to all Allied and Neutral Merchant ships in Areas 1, 6A and 9).

Swiss Govnt. Charters.

Your 1716/29/12. H.M. Govnt. have no objection in principle to ships being chartered to Swiss Govnt., for this trade, provided of course that they are ships warrant holders. Trade to Switzerland will not be permitted to take place via Italian Adriatic ports and it will be a condition of allowing ships to engage in this traffic that no other ships under same ownership trade to enemy, or enemy occupied or controlled territory.
(1655/1 to A.N.A. Belgrade).
(Head of M.)

Routeing Instructions.

Desired to institute some check as to whether Masters adhere strictly to their routeing instructions. Periodically routeing instructions should be compared with secret logs. If any serious divergence is detected a brief report should be telegraphed to Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1926/1 to A.I.C. 48 and 47).

MOST SECRET.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Coastal Convoys.	
F.S.100	Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0201/1) Absentees. (0947/1).
W.N.77.	Passed Dunnet Head at 0845. (A.C.O.S. 0908/1).
F.S.100.	23 ships. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0946/1).
O.B.283.	Your 1255/31. (Sailing of O.B.283.) Approved. (C.in C. W.A. 1005/1 to N.C.S.O. Mersey.)
W.N.78.	0935/31. H.M.Trawlers HORNPIPE (S.O.) SPURS escorting two ships. No kites. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1015/31).
E.N.64.	Loch Ewe, Section arrived 1030/1 8 ships. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1055/1).
F.S.99.	Humber and Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1114/1).
F.N.95.	Humber and Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1150/1).
F.S.99.	Convoy F.S.99 reported in Barrow Deep. 56 ships for London. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1205/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

K.C.
JOHN BAKKE
ashore.

Arrived ELIZABETH BAKKE, TAURUS, RANJA, TAI SHAN. JOHN BAKKE ashore at Farland Head. Salvage operations in hand. Escorts have proceeded in accordance with previous instructions.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1220/1).

W.N.77.

Expected time of arrival Kinnaird Head 1930/1 speed of advance 6 knots.
(ULLSWATER 1223/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

F.N. and
F.S.

Cancel my 1546/30, additional escorts detailed as follows:-

F.N.	F.S.	
-	1	SHELDRAKE.
98	2	LE TIGRE, GREENFLY.
99	-	SNAPDRAGON.
100	3	TURQUOISE AGATE.
1	4	PUFFIN
2	5	WIDGEON
3	6	KINGSTON, OLIVINE, LORD PLENDER and GREENFLY.
-	7	SHEARWATER
4	8	KITTIWAKE.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1308/1).

E.N.65.

S.O. of escort in BERKSHIRE informs me he damaged his bow in collision with unknown ship lastnight and is proceeding Aberdeen. In view of size of E.N.65 request additional escort may be sent.
(WESTON 1315/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

E.N.65.

Now sole trawler escorting. Keeping wireless watch single operator periods.
(FANDANGO, 1415/1 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

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JOHN BAKKE
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(FANDANGO, 1415/1 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

E.N.66.
W.N.79.
Act as additional A/A escort to E.N.66 sailing at 0700/3. After passing Dunnet Head proceed to Scapa. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail JASON to join W.N.79 due Duncansby Head 1400/5. Code word for E.N. 66, MISSION, and W.N.79 RUSTY.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1500/1).

F.S.1.
F.S.1. sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1504/1).

W.N.78
F.S.1
F.N.96
W.N.77
E.N.65.
HASTINGS off Todhead 2000 to meet Convoy W.N.78.
Convoy F.S.1. off Tees 2000.
Convoy F.N.96 20 C. Buoy 1930.
Convoy W.N.77 Kinnaird Head 1930. CURACOA leaves this convoy at dark and returns Scapa.
Convoy E.N.65 Kinnaird Head 2000.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1514/1).

O.B.281.
1040 arrived VANQUISHER. 1245 sailed PIMPERNEL. 1530 sailed CAMPANULA.
Escorts for O.B.281.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1530/1).

E.N.65.
1300/1 from BERKSHIRE and 1315/1 from WESTON. Continue with E.N.65 to 055° 25' N., proceed thence to destination.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1614/1 to WESTON).

E.N.65.
Passing Buchan Ness speed of advance 6 knots.
(FANDANGO 1630/1).

O.B.281.
Sailed 1611/1 five ships nine knots. One ship with kite.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey 1635/1) E.T.A. and destination (1636/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

F.S.100. Sailed 3 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1728/1).

F.S.1. 5 ships from Humber joining at Outer Dowsing.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 1730/1).

K.C., VANQUISHER. VANQUISHER's 2126/31 requested permission to leave Convoy K.C. when it is passed Cumbrae and to return to Liverpool. This was approved by my 2235/31. At 0543 I was informed that S.S. JOHN BAKKE, a ship of the K.C.Convoy, had gone aground at Crawford Point, Farland Head, South of the Cumbraes. No report was received from VANQUISHER from which it would appear that VANQUISHER had left the Convoy prematurely. Request you will obtain from VANQUISHER a full report of the circumstances in which Convoy was left.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1759/1 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

W.N.77. signals. Signals giving names and destinations of all ships sailed in convoys are to be repeated to Admiralty. This information for WN.77 not yet received.
(D.T.D. 1839/1 to N.C.S.O. Aultbea).

W.N.78. F.S.1. Rosyth 1/2 1941.
Departures. HASTINGS to meet W.N.78. My 2357/31. CELIA did not sail. WOOLSTON sailed with F.S.1 in addition to HOLDERNESS.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1907/1).

F.S.99. Convoy F.S.99 arrived (exceptions).
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1956/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

W.N.78. Loch Ewe Section sailed 1900/1. Two ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 2129/1).

F.N.96. Arrive May Island 0700 Request lights.
(VIMERA 2130/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

W.N.78. My 2129/1. W.N.78 Loch Ewe Section only 1 ship sailed.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 2230/1).

O.B.C. 281. (a) 2300/1 (b) WILD SWAN (c) 20 ships (eleven with kites).
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 2305/1).

Ocean Convoys.

S.C.19. Your 1605/31 and my 1300/31. There will now be no onward escort Clyde portion SCIMITAR and SARDONYX are both short of fuel. ANEMONE detached and NORTHERN DAWN A/S gear out of action.
(JACKAL 0002/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

H.X.105. Convoy sailing Telegram as amended by Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1927/1).

H.G.51. Your 1315/1 part three. My position 55° 45' 11° 00' Convoy H.G.51 not met. Aircraft report no convoy within 100 miles at 1700/1. S.S. SALAMANA straggler from S.L.S.62 with bow badly damaged by collision in position 55° 10' 11° 56 at 1700/1 hove to. LONDONDERRY is standing by her till further orders.
(EGRET 2200/1 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

HOME COMMANDS.

Military Convoys.

Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

H.X.104. Londonderry departures 1/2 LINCOLN SHIKARI SABRE GLADIOLUS CLARKA NORTHERN WAVE WELLARD for H.X.104. (Capt: D. Londonderry 2214/1).

Force Z. Sailed GLENGYLE, GLENROY, GLENEARL escorted by F.O.C. 10th C.S. in KENYA, OTTAWA, MESTIGOUCHE, ST. LAURENT, SKEENA in accordance with Admty's 1655/22 and C.in C. W.A. 1231/28 and 1325/31. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0027/1).

Organisation and sailing arrangements. Following A.M. is repeated to you for information. (D.T.D. 1840/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

ROCKPOOL. (British 4892 tons). Aground south side of Little Cumbrae. Forward tanks flooded. Hold dry. Require assistance to refloat. Loaded.
(ROCKPOOL to C.in C. Greenock Recd. 0114/1).

A Salvage Tug is being sent to assist you and S.S. SNAR.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0228/1 to ROCKPOOL).

SNAR. Your 2148/31. Salvage Tug is being sent.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0134/1 to SNAR).

JOHN BAKKE. (Norwegian 4718 tons). Ashore Crawford Point Earland Head. Holed No.2 making water. Send assistance soon possible. All attempts refloating failed.
(Port Patrick Radio 0547/1).

Assistance being sent.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0630/1)
See Coastal Convoys.

HOLLYHOCK. (Corvette) A/S set out of action major defect. Unable to effect repairs. Request instructions. Approx. D.R. position 060° 35'N., 011° 40'W.
(HOLLYHOCK 1020/1 to ARROW).

PASS OF LENY. C.S.V.O. Lyness 1220/31. Request repair port may be allocated. No Tug can be spared from Scapa.
(A.C.O.S. 1137/1 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

ROSLIN CASTLE.

Cancel my 1615/30/1. and 1415/31/1. ROSLIN CASTLE further delayed by engine defects. Expects to be ready to sail 3.2.41. Further signal will be made. (N.C.S.O. Glasgow 1200/1).

SANDHILL.

Rescue Tug SCHELDE left SANDHILL here and sailed for Cambeltown. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1251/1).

BERKSHIRE.

(A/S Trawler) Damaged bow in collision last night with unknown ship. Proceeding to Aberdeen. (WESTON 1315/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

WOOLER.

Intend sailing Tug LYNCH and M/V WOOLER in tow at 0001/2 from Weymouth to Southampton. E.T.A. Main Needles 0800/2. Route. (N.C.S.O. Weymouth 1315/1).

KAI.

(Esthonian, 1251 tons). Struck submerged wreckage between Trevose Head and Newquay and sank. Ten survivors landed Portrazth and ten on board S.S. ISLESMAN just arrived St. Ives. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1628/1).

ATHELREGENT.

(British Tanker 8881 tons). Reports defective D.C. (MALLOW 1700/1 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

M.L.1029.

M.L.1029 Padstow to Ardrishaig arrived Fleetwood 1200/1/2 with minor defects. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1730/1).

FAME.

Request you sail SHELDRAKE for Tyne to arrive daylight 3/2. She will form escort for FAME sailing from Tyne a.m./3, in tow of 2 tugs. (C.in C. Nore, 1740/1 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

Intend to sail FAME in tow of WATERMEYER and FAIRPLAY I passing Sunderland Breakwater 0900/3. Request escort to arrive off Sunderland at that time.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1744/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

DAMITO. (M/S Trawler) My 1826/1. Grounded off Needles. Subject to refloating without damage expect to sail 2300/1.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1841/1 to F.O.I.C. Portland).

ST. MELLONS. (rescue tug). Went aground whilst trying to tow S.S. BELGIA. Hoped she will be refloated at next high water.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1908/1).

W.B. WALKER. ASSURANCE reports making contact at 1800 today, with fore part of W.B.WALKER in 55° 27'N., 16° 28' W. Proceed to her assistance.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2159/1 to ST. OLAVES, SHEMARA, ANEMONE).

SALAMANA. (British 6676 tons). Straggler from S.L.S.62. Bow badly damaged in collision. LONDONDERRY standing by.
(EGRET 2200/1). See Ocean Convoys.

VICEROY. (Destroyer) Asdic equipment defective.
(WESTERN ISLES 2336/1).

PALLAETER. (Coaster) Reported abandoned in 055° 15' N., 005° 18'W at 2330/1. Drifting S.E. Keep sharp lookout.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/1 to WILD SWAN).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

Convoy.

French armed trawler LA SETOISE passed Gibraltar eastbound at 1815/1 escorting the French M/V's MEDIE II 5078 tons. OUED TIFLET 1194 tons and AISNE 3654 tons. (D.O.R. 5/2).

North Atlantic.

Raider Report.

Following has been imcompletely received. RRRR (Raider). 33.55N., 30.05W shelled. (Freetown W/T 0320Z/1).

Surface raider reported in position 033° 55' N., 030° 05' W at 0320. (F.O.C.N.A. 0556/1 to S. and A. North Atlantic.)

OTUS.

OTUS on patrol off Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A. 1050/1).

Air Report.

Daily return operations. (200 Group 1700/1).

CAMITO MARON.

My 1116/26.* CAMITO should be ready for service on 5/2. MARON on 8/2.
* Repairs to CAMITO.
(A.S. Gibraltar 1604/1).

Forces at Gibraltar.

Reply to F.O.C.N.A. 1258/31.
(D.C.D.(F) 2245/1) See Operations Volume.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

BULOLO, identity of raiders.

A. Your 1905/31, is inconclusive evidence, as, for instance, we know that at least one ship could not have had heavier guns than six-inch as we know where all German eight-inch cruisers are.

B. Vitally important to determine whether one ship was a pocket battleship and most detailed interrogation of survivors is to be carried out. Evidence on following points is particularly required.

(i) Conditions of light.

(ii) Closest distance at which seen.

(iii) Whether broadside view was obtained.

(iv) Whether turrets were observed and if so how many.

(v) Number of guns fired in each salvo.

C. Reply to above to be passed by visual to CARADOC and passed by latter to Admiralty when well clear of TAMERLANE.

D. If CARADOC has parted company from TAMERLANE, BULOLO is to give above information to C.in C. S.A., on arrival in harbour.
(1st S.L. 0054/1 to BULOLO).

DORSETSHIRE)
KENYA)
DEVONSHIRE)
NORFOLK.)

Instructions until situation is clearer.
(D.O.D.(F) 0103/1 to C.in C. S.A.)
See Operations Volume.
Your 0103/1. Asking for information.
(C.in C. S.A. 1017N/1 to Admty).
See Operations Volume.

ADMIRAL SCHEER. (?).

S.S. EURYLOCHUS was sunk on 29/1 in 08° 15'N., 25° 04'W. by enemy raiders. There is evidence that these ships were the pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER accompanied by an armed merchant raider.
(D.D.I.C. 0126/1).

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (Contd.)

F.O.I.C.S. DEVONSHIRE.	My 1609/31.after making contact with DEVONSHIRE remain in area between R/V and 006° 30'W., 023° 30'W., until 1800/1 then proceed to Freetown for fuel. (C.in C. S.A. 0331/1 to F.O.I.C.S.)
HAVKONG.	Overdue shipping HAVKONG due Durban 27/1 from Abadan not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1006/1).
MARGUERITE, CROCUS.	Are required for service on South Atlantic Station. Report earliest date on which they can be ready to leave U.K. (C.in C. W.A. 1007/1 to F.O.I.C's Glasgow, Liverpool).
MUNCASTER CASTLE, WEIR BANK.	Overdue shipping my 1025/31. MUNCASTER CASTLE arrived Capetown. WEIR BANK due Capetown 28/1 from U.K. not arrived. (S.O.(I)Capetown 1011/1).
DORSETSHIRE S.L.Convoys, NORFOLK DEVONSHIRE.	Proceed so as to arrive in position 009° 20' N., 022° 00' W., at 1800/2, then patrol between this position and 011°40' N., 024° 10' W. Object is to provide cover to convoy S.L. and S.L.S.B and be within support distance of NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE. NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE leave patrol on a line between 004° N., 021° W. and 006° 30'N 023° 30'W at 1800/1 to return to Freetown. (C.in C. S.A. 1107N/1 to DORSETSHIRE).
PERTH PRINCE, AFRICAN PRINCE.	Overdue shipping M.of S. 0045/30/12. reports PERTH PRINCE due Capetown 24/1 My 1005/28 reports this ship overdue. AFRICAN PRINCE arrived Capetown 31/1 January unannounced suggest C.C.S.O. re-examines, please confirm. (N.O.I.C. Capetown, 1158B/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (Contd.)

Departure 1400/1 DORSETSHIRE on patrol in accordance with C.in C. S.A. 1107/1. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1631N/1).

AFRICAN PRINCE.

Ministry of Shipping Vesca 1530/28/12. Have you any news of AFRICAN PRINCE due Capetown 24/1 from Mersey departure 23/12? (S.O.(I) Freetown 1202/1 to S.O.(I) Capetown).

AFRICA MARU suspicious conduct.

Suspicion of Japanese ship AFRICA MARU aroused by coincidence of her position with D/F estimate of raiders position. Examination of log by Union Inspector of ships W/T indicates that ship has been in communication with Nauen frequently. Material is being examined by S.O.(I) Simonstown. Considerable obstacles were put in the way of Inspector by master. In order to avoid arousing or increasing existing suspicion of reason for examination of log no effort is being made to detain ship and she sails this afternoon for Union ports, Mombasa, Colombo and Far East. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1240/1 to Admty).

Flying Boat and Air Squadrons W.Africa.

Your 1747/22/1. R.A.F. tentative target programme includes three flying boat squadrons for Freetown - Gibraltar area and one G.R. landplane and one fighter squadron Freetown. Impossible give even estimated dates for arrival although preparation aerodromes and certain essential buildings proceeding. Bathurst being developed as possible landing place for aircraft flown from America.
Up to three Blenheim bombers being retained at Takoradi. No other R.A.F. plans for expansion West Africa other than three Sunderlands referred to in my 2303/16.
(Head of M. 1605/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

/So

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (Contd.)

ELEANORA MAERSK. — Further your 2041/29 tanker ELEANORA MAERSK must not be delayed and should therefore not be considered.
(D.S.T. 1634/1 to N.O.I.C's Durban etc.)

Dispositions. — Weekly state at 1200/1. (C.in C. S.A. 1647/1).

DRAGON. — To sail 1800/2 to relieve BULOLO escorting TAMERLANE.
(C.in C. S.A. 1719/1/N) See Operation Vol.

DELHI. — DELHI to sail 0900/2. Proceed to St. Helena arriving noon 5/2 to fuel thence Simonstown by direct route.
(C.in C. S.A. 1731N/1).

NORFOLK, DEVONSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE. — Your 1017/1. (? 1107N/1) Orders for these ships.
(1st S.L. 2312/1 to C.in C. S.A.)
See Operations Vol.

DORSETSHIRE. — Admiralty 2312/1. Return to Freetown so as to arrive a.m./5.
(C.in C. S.A. 2325N/1 to DORSETSHIRE).

Mediterranean.

Genoa, Enemy Intelligence. — Following from Master and officers neutral ships which left Genoa on 25/1.

One Cavour Class Battleship in Genoa harbour (B.1).

On 25/1 this Battleship was in one of dry docks adjoining Molo Giano (C.2).

The number of identity of dry dock in question could not be established. On 25/1 six large secondary merchant vessels of six thousand/eight thousand tons were lying stern to Calata Gadda quay. (B.1).

/No

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

	No sign of any undue activity in Genoa or ports. (B.1) No LITTORIO class battleships seen. (Course of this neutral ship when approached Genoa). Existence of any contact minefield unlikely. (B.3). (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 0931/1 and 0934/1 to F.O. Force H).
German Air Position.	In the Mediterranean. Appreciation. (H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. 1056/1). See Mediterranean Volume.
Air Report, M.V. with prisoners bombed.	1800/31. Steamship COLIUM conveying Italian prisoners hit by several bombs from 2 aircraft type unidentified but most probably German and drifted ashore in neighbourhood Sidi Barrani. Prisoners panicked and about 50 drowned. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1246/1).
Turkey, War Material.	Your 1226/28. Are Items (d) to (k) inclusive for land or sea service? (Controller 1346/1 to N.A. Ankara.)
German Aircraft, Sicily.	American N.A. Vichy informs American N.A. here 9/1. 1. Chief of second bureau told him that 800 German dive bombers were already definitely in Southern Italy and Sicily for use in Albania, Libya, and against Mediterranean Fleet. 2. Aerial bombing range near Romagne Montfaucon where reputed (?practice) with gun bombs carried (?out) regularly. (N.A. Madrid 1613/1).
Convoy B.S.F.1.	Sailing Telegram. 1300 G.M.T./1, 11 ships. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area, 1619/1).

MOST SECRET.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

WAR DIARY.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

Malta Air Report, Raids.	Raids. 2218 to 0016 2 enemy aircraft 1 of which identified in Searchlights as JU.88 circled over Malta. A.A. engaged. Some bombs in sea and 4 on land near Grand Harbour causing no damage or casualties.
Reconnaissance, DIELPI, Taranto, Syracuse, etc.	Reconnaissance. 0550 to 1231 Sunderland anti convoy patrol Eastern Tunisian coast with striking force standing by. At 0955 1 M/V 1,000 tons position 348 Zuara 116 miles course 180 speed 10 knots. At 1451 Sunderland took off to intercept and attack Italian DIELPI 2,000 tons reported to be leaving La Goulette Tunis at 1500 loaded with Toluol striking force also standing by. 0955 to 1530 photo reconnaissance Taranto. 0945 to 1159 reconnaissance Syracuse, Augusta, Catania and Messina for ships in harbour. 3 M/V's 10,000 tons each 10 miles west of Cape Vaticano course North. (H.Q. Med., 1745/1 to Air Ministry).
Summary of German Bomber Activities.	1/2 A.874. Summary of German Bomber activities over Egypt and Palestine already described in my Daily Operational Summaries and amplified by most recent information. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. (1856/1)).
Mines in Suez Canal.	My 1059/1. D.W.I. Wellington aircraft exploded three mines red Polarity in canal between Lake Timsah and Great Bitter Lakes. Traffic has been resumed in this section. Hope to clear section Kabret to Port Tewfik on 2/2. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1931/1.)
HUNTLEY Sunk.	C.C. reports HUNTLEY sunk 20 miles West at 1745/31 by two Heinkels. Captain and seven wounded believed, 14 ratings missing. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 2227/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

B.N.F.1.
B.N.14.

Departure 31/1 2225Z, FLAMINGO for B.N.F.1. 1/2. 0010Z CALEDON SHOREHAM INDUS and RATNAGIRI for B.N.14, 0340Z PARRAMATTA for B.N.F.1, 0253Z CHANTALA on patrol.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 0345Z/1).

HAWKINS.

Mombasa arrived 1/2 0450 G.M.T. HAWKINS.
(N.O.I.C. Kilindini, 0530Z/1.)

Operation "CANVAS"

My 0914/29. Intentions.
(C.in C. E.I. 0650Z/1 to Admty).
See Operations Volume.

Convoy B.N.14.

Sailing telegram 0100Z/1. Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aden, 0730Z/1).

Persian Gulf. Contraband Control.

Your 0602/26. Remarks on preliminary discussions with M.E.W. representative. Khor Kuwai indicated as most effective point of control since in any case it is the focus of traffic. Armed dhows would be most useful there. Are circumstances suitable to consider use of Walrus aircraft ?
(S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0802Z/1 to C.in C.E.I).

SHROPSHIRE.

My 1000Z/30. Preliminary medical report anticipates majority of cases will be fit to return to the ship p.m./3.
(SHROPSHIRE 0830Z/1).

British ship TROILUS (7422 tons) made a "Q" distress signal in position 003° 26'S., 052° 35'E. at 1107Z/1 and reported a suspicious vessel.
(C.in C. E.I. 1202/1 to E.I. Squadron, Portishead Radio no T.O.O.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Contd.)

Force K, HAWKINS.	My 1202/1 as soon as HAWKINS has joined proceed at 18 knots towards this position. (C.in C. E.I. 1248Z/1 to S.O.Force K).
CAPETOWN, Force K.	My 1202/1. No cancellation yet received. Following movements have been ordered. (i) CAPETOWN from approx. 001° 20'N., 048° 48' at 1330Z/1 towards 003° 26'S., 052° 35' at 18 knots. (ii) Force K from vicinity of Mombasa at about 1530Z/1 towards 003° 26'S., 052° 35' at 18 knots. (C.in C. E.I. 1440Z/1 to E.I. Squadron).
ORCADES.	Transport ORCADES sailed Bombay 31/1 due Capetown 12/2. (P.S.T.O. India 1902/1).
	My 1440/1. Efforts to get into W/T communication with TROILUS have failed. It must therefore be assumed there was a disguised raider in position 003° 26'S., 052° 35'E., at 1107 G.M.T./1. (C.in C. E.I. 1940/1 to E.I. Squadron).
Force K, Raider.	Proposed cancelling of a certain operation to use for hunt. (C.in C. E.I. 1946Z/1 to C.in C. Med.) See Operations Volume.
CARTHAGE.	Your 0528/31. Re Reliefs for engineer officers and supply ratings. (D.S.T. 1618/1 to CARTHAGE.)
GALILEO GALILEI.	Your 1645/23. (re Italian submarines GALILEO GALILEI) Proceedings were merely formal to establish no cargo on board and vessel was handed over to Naval Authorities. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 1620Z/1 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Contd.)

DELANE.

Store Carrier DELANE has left convoy W.S.5.A. and is returning to Durban. Piston cracked. Time required 4 days. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1650/1 to C.in C. E.I.)

China.

O.B. SORENSON.

Your 1827/29. O.B. SORENSON is at shell installation at Nonai. (Kobe, 0235Z/1 to D.N.I.)

Sourabaya threat of Japanese Invasion.

Governor East Java states intercepted telephone conversation between two important Japanese at Sourabaya and Lawang referred to Japanese attack on 10/2. Both Japanese immediately arrested but deny conversation. Governor states that Japanese have recently shown increasing anxiety as to their safety during preliminary stages of possible invasion. He assures me that in the event of trouble no difficulty is expected in rounding up all Japanese here. (Consul, Sourabaya T.H.I. 2100/1).

America and West Indies.

H.X.107 LACONIA.

Intend sailing LACONIA as ocean escort to H.X.107 subsequently returning to Halifax. (F.O.S.B.S. 0949/1).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

American and West Indies. (Contd.)

LYLE PARK
S.C.20.

British LYLE PARK returned from S.C.20 for repairs to life boat and accommodation. (N.C.S.O. Halifax 1107/1).

RONIN.

Should the Panamanian RONIN now trading on the East Coast of America put into a Dominion or Colonial port her arrival should be reported and all facilities refused pending instructions.
(D.T.D. 1118/1 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa C.in C. A.W.I.)

NAKO
MARU.

My 1049/21/1. Los Angeles reports 'U.S. Naval Intelligence Officer there states that consignment was listed on manifest as 'Arms and ammunition' followed by weight. No details given. He has received a report that vessel has false bottoms built into holds'.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1129/1).

COMORIN.

Your 1552/31 COMORIN arrived sailing for destination 0700/2. Owing to length of route ordered it is not anticipated she will arrive Freetown before (date).
(N.C.I.C. Trinidad 1149/1 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

BRASIL.

Request reply to my 1157/25.
(News of Norwegian Tanker BRASIL).
(D.T.D. 1818/1 to Consul, Galveston).

New Zealand.

HOBART
and
Transport.

Departure Wellington 0435Z/1. HOBART wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. escorting H.T. NIEUW AMSTERDAM.
(N.Z.N.B. 0635Z/1).

MOST SECRET.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

WAR DIARY.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

PORTLAND.	PORTLAND sailed from Talcahuano yesterday, 31/1. (S.O.(I) Montevideo 1254Z/1 to S.A. Div.)
ANTARKTIS.	After discharging some cargo at the oil quay, had returned to her anchorage on 1/2. (D.S. 576).
HAMBURG.	Trawler, 279 tons. Reported (B.2.) on 28/1 to be proceeding to Lofoten Islands to load fish and expected to be at Svolvaer, due W. of Narvik, from 15/2 to 18/2. (D.S. 515 amended D.S.517).
SALZBURG ARKADIA.	SALZBURG arrived from Turkey ARKADIA left for Burgas. (Verna 1753/31).

MOST SECRET.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

WAR DIARY.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

CELENO (Tanker).	Left Constanza. (Verna 1140/1).
HIELPI.	Your 1537/15. Information received that Italian Ship HIELPI intends to leave La Goulette Tunis at 1500 today 1/2 with cargo Toluene. (S.O.(I) Malta 1211/1 to Admty). For Air Search, see Mediterranean.
MAURO CROCE.	Left Barcelona 29/1 for Genoa. (D.S. 515).
LIGURIA.	Reported in The Times to be a wreck in Tobruk Harbour. (D.S. 515).
GIMMA.	Arrival 1/1 GIMMA from Palma. (Barcelona 1821/1).
GIOVANNI MARIA.	280 tons, carrying ammunition and food, sunk off Libyian Coast near Tobruk and crew rescued by a naval unit. (Lloyd's Gazette 31/1, D.S. 516).
FORTUNATA.	Reported that an Italian ship intended to leave La Goulette, Tunis, at 1500/1 with a cargo of Toluene. This is possibly part of cargo of FORTUNATA captured by French immediately before the Armistice. (D.S.516).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

MENDOZA. — Arrival 0800/1 DRAGON escorting MENDOZA. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1109N/1).

Portugese S.S. ANGOLA is calling Freetown shortly carrying 115 French repatriates from South Africa to Casablanca. If accommodation available, personnel from MENDOZA should be repatriated by this means.
(Head of M. 1854/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

Passengers, Cargo, (Details).
Personnel friendly to Great Britain but not to extent yet of joining Free French they fear for their relatives.
(C.in C. S.A. 2357/1).

ALSIDA. — Your 1717/31. (ALSIDA leaving Marseilles).
I agree not to intercept in South American area.
(C.in C. S.A. 1341/1 to R.A.S.A.D.)

MOST SECRET.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

WAR DIARY.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.	
KING ROBERT (torpedoed 29/1).	LADY MADELEINE arrived with 20 survivors from KING ROBERT. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0332/1) KING ROBERT was in S.C.19, 22 survivors including master landed at Gourock in addition to the 20 reported above. (D.S. 515 1/2).
W.B. WALKER. (torpedoed 29/1.	If fuel permits proceed to vicinity of position 56° 00'N., 16° 05'W. to escort ST. OLAVES who is searching for W.B.WALKER. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1245/1 to SHEMARA).
	Your 0900. Continue search for W.B. WALKER position 56° 00'N., 05' 16° W. at 1000/30. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1254/1 to ST. OLAVES).
	Following received, from ASSURANCE. Made contact with fore part of S.S. W.B. WALKER 055° 27'N., (016° ?)28'W. Impossible to tow. Dangerous to navigation. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1800/1 to C.in C. W.A.)
	If nothing yet seen join ST. OLAVES and ASSURANCE at daylight in position 056° 00'N 016° 12'W at 1200/1 searching for W.B. WALKER. Continue search until noon/2 then escort tugs to Greenock. (C.in C. W.A. 1859/1 to HESPERUS).
BOTUSK (torpedoed 31/1.)	VERBENA. Expected time of arrival Greenock 2400 today. Has 11 survivors on board from BOTUSK including one D.E.M.S. gunlayer. VERBENA required refuelling and repairs to W/T transmitter. (GENTAIN 1500/1 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN. (Contd.)

BOTUSK.
(Contd.)

Arrived VERBENA with 11 survivors from S.S. BOTUSK.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/1 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

1345/31. Enemy submarines in position 040° 59' N., 021° 15'W at 1245 G.M.T./31.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0101/1 to S. and A. N.A.Stan.)

0016. 53°-54° N., 18°- 30° W. indefinite position.
(D.S. 515).

0322.)
0458.) Within 160' of 50° N., 18° W. indefinite position. (D.S.515).

Admiralty message AF. Position 40° N., 21° 15'W at 1245/31 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 0248/1 to G.B.M.S.Area 1).

1217. 52.40 N., 21° W. position indefinite. German. (D.S.516).

Freetown's 2213/31 and Ascansion's 2248/31.

Bearings from home stations place unit probably a U/Boat to the Westward of Ireland.
(D.D.I.C. 0433/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

1337. By D/F at 1337 BST position of German unit possibly U/Boat was approx. 50° N., 27° W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1535/1).

1817. 55° N., 15°- 21° W., position indefinite. (German) (D.S.516).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN. (Contd.)

Estimated U/Boat dispositions.

German.

1 nearing Trondhjem or Bergen.
1 between 58° N., and 60° N near 20° W.
1 within 60 miles of 56° N., 21° W.
1 within 30 miles of 54° N., 18° 30'W.
1 within 30 miles of 52° 40'N., 21° W.
1 within 60 miles of 51° N., 19° W.
1 within 60 miles of 56° N., 13° W. or southbound from there.
1 in 40° N., 21° 15'W at 1345/31.
Possibly 1 near Cape Verde Islands.

Italian.

Possibly 1 near Canary Island.
1 in Bay of Biscay patrolling.
1 near 47° N., 10° W. bound for Gironde.
2 in N.W. Approaches whereabouts unknown.
(D.D.I.C. 1411/1).

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MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands.

Patrols cancelled. Patrols and movements in the Channel last night were cancelled on account of bad weather. Minelaying operations have also been postponed.

BERWICK. BERWICK sailed today for Gibraltar.

Trawlers shelled from French coast. Six trawlers sweeping off Dover were heavily shelled today from the French coast, about 200 rounds being fired between 1147 and 1542. No damage or casualties were caused.

Dover shelled. Shelling of Dover harbour, town and Dover area persisted until 1900, about 40 further rounds being fired. No naval casualties or damage resulted.

SCHELDE SPAMAN These two rescue tugs which left Londonderry 1900/31 for Belfast, where they were due 0830/1, have not arrived.

ASHANTI was docked at Sunderland today.

Redistribution of submarines. In view of the effective results being obtained by submarines employed in Channel patrol a redistribution of submarines and depot ships is proposed, to allow of submarine patrols off Brest.

German hospital barge. A German hospital towing barge was beached near Seaford Head today.

E.boats engaged. About 2210 today armed trawler LADY SHIRLEY engaged one of two E.boats near Aldeburgh Float. The E.boats made off at high speed. It appears likely they were engaged in minelaying.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command. Owing to adverse weather conditions, all operations last night were cancelled.

5 Wellingtons successfully bombed an oil refinery, and railway targets at Naples early this morning.

Enemy Air Activity.

PINTAIL damaged. Convoy F.S. 23 was attacked this morning some 13 miles N. of Yarmouth. PINTAIL received direct hits but proceed to Lowestoft on one engine.

S.S.BALTRADER attacked 24/10. It is reported that S.S. BALTRADER (which was attacked yesterday) was unsuccessfully bombed and machine gunned 24/10 off N.W. Ireland. The W/T operator, in sending out S.O.S. ....

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

S.S. BALTRADER attacked 24/10. (Contd.

S.O.S. made a mistake in the position.

D.W.2 bombed attack in Thames Estuary.

For the first time for many weeks enemy dive bombers JU 87 and JU 88 attacked shipping.

S.S. LETCHWORTH M/S Tr. TILBURYNESS E. Oaze L.V. sunk.

At least 20 dive bombers attacked shipping in Oaze Deep between 1430 and 1437 today. The following vessels are reported sunk: S.S. LETCHWORTH (1317 tons) in Convoy F.S.22 M/S Trawler TILBURYNESS, East Oaze Light Vessel.

ROYAL EAGLE M.L.120 attacked.

Mid Barrow Light Vessel was bombed and machine gunned without result. ROYAL EAGLE (A.A. vessel ~~?S.S. 1539 tons~~) sustained slight superficial damage and casualties and claims to have shot down one enemy aircraft. M.L.120 was undamaged in attack and also claims one enemy aircraft shot down. One prisoner has been landed at Sheerness. Help messages were passed to H.Q. F.C. who replied that many squadrons of fighters were already in the neighbourhood. Later reports indicate that no fighters were seen by our vessels and it is thought they were perhaps too high to intercept the dive bombers.

TORBAY II sunk

Drifters proceeding on patrol from Dover were attacked this afternoon by about 15 dive bombers, and 5 bombs were also dropped in the town and harbour. TORBAY II was sunk by a near miss.

Convoy F.S.24.

LONDONDERRY and Convoy F.S.24 were bombed this evening off the Humber. No damage resulted.

Attacks on U.K.

Two attacks were made on the London docks today, and a very little damage was done to two warehouses. Portsmouth was unsuccessfully attacked. Damage was caused at King George Dock, Hull early this morning.

S.S. HOUSTON CITY.

S.S. HOUSTON CITY (mined and beached 21/10 near Oaze Deep) was bombed and damaged today.

Mining.

SANTA LUCIA

Dutch M.V. SANTA LUCIA (379 tons) was mined and sunk off Belfast today.

BLACK SWAN

A mine exploded under the stern of BLACK SWAN near Inchkeith Light this morning, putting her main engines out of action.

HUNDVAAG sunk

S.S. HUNDVAAG (Norw. 690 tons) was sunk by an explosion, probably a mine, off Dover this evening.

/ Ports affected. ...

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Mining. (Continued)

Ports affected. Avonmouth, Newport, Barry and Cardiff were reopened this evening. Sailings from Swansea to the Eastward are stopped.
Milford Haven is open in daylight only.
Humber was closed at 2247, Falmouth at 2000, Rosyth approach channel at 2155, Fowey at 2347.
Mines were found or exploded at Milford Haven, Tyne and Gunfleet Sands.
Four A/C mines were dropped today in the Hamoaze.

Enemy A/C minelaying. Minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Thames Estuary is suspected between 1800 and 2100 today. No minelaying aircraft were believed to have been operating last night in waters round Great Britain.

E.boat minelaying. See Home Commands.

Bay of Biscay mined area. The limits of the Bay of Biscay mined area have been amended by the Admiralty.

Operations Against Vichy French.

Force H returned to Gibraltar today (See 31/10).

Mediterranean.

Corfu was heavily bombed this afternoon.
Suda and Canea were also attacked today but little damage was done.
One Bombay aircraft attacked Bardis last night.
Forty bombs were dropped on Matruh today before our fighters intercepted the raiders.
No damage resulted.

America and West Indies.

The U.S.A. Navy have established patrols off Fort de France and whatever port JEANNE D'ARC may be in, with orders to maintain contact in case of movement.
6 Town class destroyers left Halifax today for the U.K. via St. John's N.F.

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Hatston Proposed withdrawal of A/C.

Your 1347/30. I do not think we should withdraw anything from our insufficient A/S Forces covering the well established Northern U-Boat route. Furthermore the enemy may at any time switch his attack to the Focal areas near Cape Wrath and the Moray Firth.
A further consideration is the unsuitability of aircraft of 821 and 823 squadrons to operate by day in areas where they are likely to be opposed by modern shore based aircraft.
I therefore recommend the retention of 821 and 823 squadrons at Hatston.
(C.in C. H.F. 1326/1 to Adty.).

Meetings as to A/S measures.

My 1412/24. Will be held in future on every alternate Tuesday. Next meeting 12/11.
(A.C.N.S. T. 1629/1 to C.in C's)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE.

At 0200/1. (D.C. 0207/1) At 1400/1 (D.C. 1426/1).

Movements.

ALCANTARA.

My 2351/31. Route to Needles.
(C.in C. W.A. 0031/1 and 1057/1)

SANDWICH.

ETA. 1700 (?2200) (SANDWICH 0915/1 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).

Dover.

Patrols for Night 1/2. (V.A. Dover 1428/1 to Adty.)

SALVIA)
PEONY)
GLOXINIA)
HYACINTH)

Provisionally allocated to leave for Mediterranean about 8/11. Is their LL Gear complete (D.O.D. H. 1518/1 to C.in C. Nore).

Orkneys.

Movements for Night 1/2. (A.C.O.S. 1531 and 1941/1).

Rosyth.

Command State 1/11. (C.in C. Rosyth 2001/1).

MOST SECRET.

1. 11. 1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

CELTE. French, 904 tons. Was intercepted 0009/31 in 45° 2'N. 25° 17' W. steering East at 8 knots. 7 days coal remaining and flying yellow triangular flag under ensign.
Ordered to Greenock for detention.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1011/1 to Adty.)

Operation LUCID. Request operation may now be cancelled for following reasons. (C.in C. Nore 1150/1 to Adty.) Approved (1st S.L. 1634/1 to C.in C. Nore) Operation postponed indefinitely. All copies of Operation Orders to be destroyed by fire. (1st S.L. 1627/1 to C.in C. Nore)

Faroes. Your 1647/31. Troops taking only small quantity of equipment all of which can be manhandled. Disembarkation to be by local craft. (D.O.D. H. 1203/1 to N.O.I.C. Faroes)

VANOC)
VOLUNTEER) Patrol Eastward tonight as cover for Convoy C.E.15. They may proceed to
LA MELPOMENE) Southward keeping clear of S/M Areas W.2 and S.3. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1303 and 1640/1 to Adty.)

M/S Trawlers shelled. 6 M/S Trawlers sweeping QZS.105 heavily shelled today between 1147 and 1542. About 200 rounds fired. No damage or casualties. (V.A. Dover 1929/1 to Adty.)

Dover shelled. Dover Harbour, Town, and Area shelled until 1900. Batteries at Wissant, Framzelle, Wimereux, and near Calais all fired. One civilian killed, 3 civilians and 3 military wounded. (V.A. Dover 1929/1 to Adty.)

Submarines.

Positions. For following 24 hours at 0700/2. (V.A.S. 1701/1).

Proposed redistribution of S/M's and Depot Ships. My 1392/S.M.105 of 13/10 to Adty. and my 1112/19/10 to Adty. In view of effective results obtained by S/M's on Channel Patrols and need for S/M Patrols off Brest, following redistribution of S/M's and Depot Ships is now proposed. (V.A.S. 1829/1 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

LETITIA
EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA
ANTONIA
2 Destroyers.

) Request A/S Air Escort from daylight 2nd. Estimated in 59° 16' N. 7° 55' W. at 0800/2, proceeding to Clyde via Minches. (C.in C. H.F. 1417/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

Enemy Air Activity.

PINTAIL.

(Corvette) My 0718. Direct hit on PINTAIL. Am standing by in 52° 51' N. 1° 43' E. (VERDUN 0725/1). Direct hit on bridge, but able steam on one boiler. Am taking wounded and standing by. Request Tug and Fighter Escort (VERDUN 0735/1 to Adty.) Tug G.F.G.D. proceeded help of PINTAIL (N.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0950/1 to Salvage Dept. Adty.) Unexploded Bomb embedded in bridge of PINTAIL (VERDUN 0920/1 to C.in C. Nore). Take PINTAIL to Lowestoft (C.in C. Nore 1027/1 to VERDUN) Damage as follows: 9 killed including Captain, 10 injured 6 seriously. Proceeding under own steam to Lowestoft escorted by VERDUN. (PINTAIL 1100/1 to N.O.I.C. Harwich) Arrangements should be made to tow PINTAIL to Yarmouth for repairs as soon as convenient. (C.in C. Nore 1114/1 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

Attack of Enemy A/C by M/V's in Convoy.

For N.C.S.O's. Masters are to be informed that, when to the Westward of 7° West in Area 1, merchant ships in convoy are not to open fire on aircraft at night unless they are attacked. With this exception any aircraft approaching within range should immediately be engaged as hitherto. A.M.S.I's 164 and 213, N.C.S.I. 124 and Trade Division memorandum N/2/413 are amended accordingly. (A.I.G. 1715/1)

LONDONDERRY.

My 1727. One A/C now disappeared. 2 Bombs, no hits. (LONDONDERRY 1733/1 to C.in C. Nore).

Dover Patrol.

Drifters proceeding on Patrol attacked 1629 by about 15 Dive Bombers and 5 Bombs also dropped in Town and Harbour. TORBAY II sunk by near mines, one killed, remainder saved. 1 Rating in SHIPMATES wounded. (V.A. Dover 1929/1 to Adty.)

Attack on Shipping in East Oaze.

LETCHWORTH

British, 1317 tons. Bombed and sunk at 1430/1 in East Oaze. 17 survivors out of 18, 6 injured. (C.in C. Nore 2152/1 to Adty.)

/ TILBURYNESS .....

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

TILBURYNESS. M/S Trawler. Bombed and sunk at 1430/1 in East Oaze. 10 missing, 7 landed of whom 2 injured. (C.in C. Nore 2152/1 to Adty.)

East Oaze Light Vessel. Bombed and sunk at 1430/1. No survivors. (C.in C. Nore 2152/1 to Adty.)

Mid Barrow Light Vessel. Bombed and machine-gunned at 1430/1. No casualties. (C.in C. Nore 2152/1 to Adty.).

ROYAL EAGLE. British, 1539 tons. Attacked by A/C in East Oaze at 1430/1. Slight damage and 2 very slight casualties. (C.in C. Nore 2152/1).

M.L. 120. Attacked by A/C in East Oaze at 1430/1. No damage or casualties. Claims shot down one A/C in Edinburgh Channel, and one Prisoner landed at Sheerness (C.in C. Nore 2152/1).

Mining.

PRINSESSE RAGNHILD (Norw. 1590 tons) stated by Norwegian Wireless to have struck a mine of Haugesund 25/10 and sunk (D.S. 423).

Unidentified ship. An unidentified ship was mined today close to westward of No.1 Buoy, Dover. (D.S.424)

Milford Haven. Port closed owing to Magnetic Mines (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0724/1 to Adty.) Open in daylight only, using QZS which will shortly be promulgated. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1401/1 to Adty.) One Ground Mine self detonated close Eastward of Stack Rock at 1210. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1830/1 to Adty.)

Gorleston. Two mines exploded near M.L. 111 today 028° South Gorleston Pier Light 1.7 miles (D.S. 424).

Barry, Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea. Barry and ports to Eastward are closed. Incoming traffic being routed to Mumbles. Sailings from Swansea to Eastward stopped. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0800/1 to Adty.) Avonmouth, Newport, Barry, Cardiff now open. Traffic may proceed from Swansea to ports to Eastward. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1755/1 to Adty.)

Hamoaze. Four A/C mines were dropped at 1930 today in the Hamoaze (D.S. 424)

Penlee Point. Magnetic and Accoustic Mines suspected near Penlee Point. Channel will be swept by LL immediately before your arrival. (C.in C. W.A. 0958/1 to NIGERIA).

/ Operation W.S.4A. ....

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Continued)

Operation W.S. 4A.

My 1420/30. BULLDOG is the other H.F. Destroyer for W.S. 4A. (C.in C. W.A. 1050/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

SANTA LUCIA

Dutch Motor Vessel, 379 tons. At 0950/1 mined and sunk 044° 3.6 miles from Pile Light, Belfast. Was wiped. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1210/1 to Adty.)

Tyne.

One Ground Magnetic Mine detonated by L.L. at 1105/1 in 083° Souter Point 2.7 miles (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1250/1 to Adty.)

Humber.

Closed suspected Minelaying. (F.O. Humber 2247/1 to Adty.)

BLACK SWAN.

At 1017 to-day a mine exploded under stern of BLACK SWAN in position 035 degs. Inchkeith light 1.3 miles. Main engines put out of action. Ship was entering harbour with wheel steady both engines half speed 16 knots. No recent alteration of course and speed.
BLACK SWAN was about 2 cables ahead of H.M. Submarine H 28 also entering harbour, and patrol boat JEANNIE MACKAY. Diesel engine was on parallel course 7 to 8 knots about 3/4 cables South East of BLACK SWAN.
Last occasion of suspected minelaying in vicinity 28/10. EDINBURGH must have passed very close to position when sailing yesterday. (C.in C. Rosyth 1252/1 to Adty.)
Position was swept by LL for both polarities today before the explosion. (C.in C. Rosyth 1501/1 to Adty.)

Proposed Mining of Nymphe, Little Sole, and La Chapelle Banks.

Your 1631/30. Presumed area will not (? be) declared and that we will depart from our observance of this rule of war. This needs to be balanced against problematical value of the proposed field. Line C. would in any case interfere with operations of our S/Ms and is unacceptable If lines (a) and (b) are laid I suggest they be in same direction so that our ships may know the safest course to steer when crossing the 100 fathom line. (C.in C. H.F. 1334/1 to Adty.)

Bay of Biscay Mined Area.

My 1111/20/9 and 1212/21/9. Amend limits of Bay of Biscay area as follows. (D.M.S. 1800/1 to C's-in-C.)

/ Explosions on Gunfleet Sands. .....

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Continued)

Explosions on Gunfleet Sands. — Patrol H.R. reports two heavy Explosions S.W. of our position. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1914/1 to Adty.) Explosions occurred on Northern and Gunfleet Sands (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2202/1 to Adty.)

Falmouth. — Closed. Suspected Mines. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 2000/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

Rosyth. — Approach Channel between 2° 52' W. and West Gate, Inchkeith is closed. Methil port and anchorage are open. (C.in C. Rosyth 2155/1 to Adty.)

Fowey. — Closed. Suspected Minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 2347/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German Hospital Towing Barge. — Beached 100 yards West of Hope Cape, East of Seaford Head. Description, and fuller details will follow. Propose tow Barge into Newhaven Harbour tomorrow. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1440/1 and 1745/1 to Adty.)

Lorient)
St. Malo)
Cherbourg) — Warships, S/M's, and Shipping. (P.R.U. St. Eval 2200/1 to H.Q.C.C.).

E.Boat. — Suspected at 2207 in 52° 5' N. 1° 55' E. (C.in C. Nore 2325/1 to GARTH, HOLDERNESS) E-Boat reported retiring South-Eastwards near Position Z. (N.O.I.C. Harwich 2325/1 to GARTH).

Miscellaneous.

Rosyth Command. Exhibition of Lights. — C.in C. W.A. 1542/25/8. Intend to substitute following arrangements. (C.in C. Rosyth 1645/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

EREBUS. To be taken in hand at Tilbury for rudder and engine repairs. She should be sailed accordingly. (D.O.D. H. 1703/1 to C.in C. Nore.).

DOSINIA. My 1535/28/10. Has broken her back in heavy weather. Hope salve forepart for scrap. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1745/1 to Adty.)

BELGIQUE. (Belgian, 4606 tons) Sailed Milford Haven 18/9 due Bahia Blanca 21/10. Not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown 1802/1 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Convoys.

Shipping.

GENTIAN
O.B. 236.
H.X. 82.

Whether or not you are in company with O.B. 236 expected to be at 1800/1, 00' N. 15° 50' W. you are to proceed at 2359 so as to meet H.X. 82 in position 55° 35' N. 14° 40' W. at 0800/2 steering towards 56° 00' N. 08° 00' speed 8 knots. (C.in C. W.A. 1743/1 to GENTIAN).

F.N. 24, 25.

F.N. 24 postponed 24 hours.
F.N. 25 (fast) VANITY WOLFHOUND sails 0800.
F.N. 24 (slow) WATCHMAN VERDUN Code word AGENT one until 20 C buoy then LUNCH one sails 0900. Both tomorrow Saturday.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1317/1.)

H.X.82.

LEITH to detach 2 destroyers to meet. Route (C.in C. W.A. 1205/1).

H.X. 82.

H.X. 82. My 1211/22/10.
Twelve other ships are carrying special cargoes. Additional escort should be given if possible. (D.T.D. 1909/1 to C.in C. W.A.).

O.G. 45.

Escort broken down. Asking if SALOPIAN can act, subsequentlybeing relieved by local escort from Gibraltar. (C.in C.W.A. to F.O.C.N.P. 1950/1). SALOPIAN available. (F.O.C.N.P. 2140/1).

F.N. 24.

Delayed 24 hours. (C.in C. Nore 2008/31).

F.S. 23.

Escort PINTAIL (N.O.I.C. Harwich 1719/31).

H.X. 83.

Route (D.T.D. 1345/1)

O.B.240.

Route (D.T.D. 1347/1)

F.S. & F.N.

My 1103/26. Amend and continue (C.in C. Rosyth 1951/1).

Troop Convoys.

W.S. 4B.

Date of sailing and capacity of ships. (D. of S.T. 1343/1).

W.S. 4A.

My 1420/30 BULLDOG is the other H.F. destroyer for W.S. 4A (C.in C. W.A. 1050/1)

ADDA.

ADDA will be ready to leave Liverpool (date)
2. C.in C. W.A. to sail and route this ship with her escort to FAROES.
3. N.O.i/c Faroes arrange return journey with as little delay as possible. C.in C. H.F. to provide Destroyer Escort both ways.
4. Fighter protection code word SOLLO.
(D.O.D.(H) 1805/1.)

Re subsequent employment. (D. of S.T.1940/1)

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping. (Continued)

Amended Routes. W.A.C.I. Section D, Part 1. As from Friday 8/11 the following amended routes are to come into force.
Route F. Westward through Pentland Firth,
Route G. Northward from the vicinity of Duncansby Head through South Fair Island Channel, thence through following positions
Route H. Northward from the vicinity of Duncansby Head through South Fair Island Channel, thence through following positions.
Route P. Through following positions thence through Pentland Firth, keeping south of a line. (C.in C. W.A.1151/1).

Operations Against Vichy French.

French S/M's arrived at Dakar. My 1151/31. (i) Further information obtained by DRAGON from French Officer at Bathurst as follows. Four S/Ms and tanker carrying Diesel oil not depot ship definitely arrived Dakar 28th October.
(ii) Following was hearsay only tanker and one S/M sailed repeatedly but remained in sight and returned before dark same day suspected of refuel German U Boat. Consider (ii) of little value and there is no evidence that the tanker has gone south.
(C.in C. S.A. 1105/1 to F.O.C. 1 C.S.)

S.S. SAVOIE See A. and W.I.

CUBA (intercepted 31/10) see also A.& W.I. Admty. 2302/31. If you are directed to take CUBA to Freetown you should pass West of Cape Verde Island. (C.in C. S.A. to MORETON BAY, 1121/1).

No further instructions received. CUBA in company has only four days fuel and food left. My position course and speed are now (? 023°) 55' 028° 59' 062° 10. (MORETON BAY 1100Z/1.)

Your 2230N/31. Report in accordance with Admiralty 2302/31 if sailors are naval ratings or merchant seamen being repatriated and any other details. Also if enquiries apart from books not being produced suggest that any Gold may be on board.
(C.in C. S.A. 1507N/1, to MORETON BAY).

Your 1121/1 CUBA is to be taken to Freetown by circuitous route passing well to the westward of Cape Verde Islands.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1636/1 to C.in C. S.A.).

Your 1636/1 and H.M.S. MORETON BAY 1100/1 Consider best means get ship in will be to proceed for Freetown to approximately 010° 40' N. 022° 00' W. where ship will be met by oiler with provisions if required. If unable to

/fuel ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations against Vichy French. (Contd.)

fuel at sea ships is to be towed in. DRAGON now at Bathurst can return, fuel and meet MORETON BAY and CUBA about position 011° 00' N. 024° 30' W. 1600/4. This will be arranged. Fuelling at sea unlikely owing to difference in hose connection. (C.in C. S.A. 1907N/1 to Adty.)

Cruiser. — 31/10 warships which appeared to be a cruiser went round island Saint Michael Azores at average distance of 16 miles being at 1340 G.M.T. in 37° 42' N. 26° 05' W. and at 1845 G.M.T. in 37° 25' N. 25° 17' W. disappearing towards east source (A) Zero. (Lisbon 1630/1 to Adty.)

DJENNE. PROVIDENCE. — French authorities propose to send DJENNE and PROVIDENCE from Casablanca to U.K. to assist in repatriation of French personnel. French N.A. should be informed that they should follow same route as MASSILIA but that it is essential that Adty. should be informed when ships leave Morocco and their expected time of arrival in 52° 00' N, 14° 00' W. (Hd. of M. 1751/1 to N.A. Madrid)

Recognition Signals. — Free French Authorities have issued allied aircraft recognition signals consisting of combination of coloured stars which resemble but do not conform to British recognition signals. Signals change every 10 days and thus liable to compromise. Only alternative to accepting this system is to communicate our own and supply key memorandum to N.C.S.O. Duala. Pending decision on this point intend to inform H.M. Ships in Duala area of French Signals. (F.O.I.C.S. 1129A/1 to C.in C. S.A.).

North Atlantic.

Force H. — E.T.A. Gate 1000. Fuel on arrival. (S.O. Force H to F.O.C.N.A. 0753/1).

Explosive Machines, Gibraltar. — My 2352/30. Parts of another machine recovered. 2 more sets of shallow diving apparatus discovered on bottom, damaged by explosion, possibly indicating 2 men killed. (F.O.C.N.A. 1020/1).

ARK ROYAL. — Asking E.T.A. at Gibraltar (F.O.C. Force H 1523/1) Reply (A.C.N.S.(F) 1553/1)

HOTSPUR — V.A. Malta 1645/28. Request your intentions (re repairs). (C.in C. Med. to F.O.C. N.A., 1337/1)

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Continued)

Situation report. One French type reconnaissance aircraft flew over Rock at height 14,000 feet at 1220 hours today. Dropped to 9,000 feet and disappeared eastwards on being engaged by heavy and light A.A. fire. (Govr., Gib., 2110/1).

CANADA. Your 1238/31/10 CANADA called Gibraltar 0830/1 and given routeing instructions. E.T.A. at 052° 30' N. 014° 00' W. between 2200/4 and midnight 4th - 5th Nov. (F.O.C. N.A. 1025/1 to Adty.)

DEMPARK: suspicious vessel. British ship DEMPARK communicated at 0950/31/10 that she was being pursued by a mysterious vessel in 28° 20' N. 30° W. was not heard any further source (a) zero. (Lisbon 1615/1).

South Atlantic.

Cape Verde Islands. Report that Governor thinks G.B. or U.S. will occupy on sign of Portugal becoming involved in war. Feared air attack from Dakar on office and fuel tanks. (D.N.I. to C.in C. S.A., 1036/1).

Suspicious Vessel. Your 1404/30. Vessel cannot be identified here. (D.D.I.C. to S.O.I., Freetown 1037/1)

Plans to intercept RIO GRANDE. RIO GRANDE sailed 0112 G.M.T./1. ENTERPRISE will cover arc north of 80° from Rio Grande do Sul. ASTURIAS endeavour to cover arc from 95° to southward. QUEEN OF BERMUDA cover arc between 80° and 95° on passage to Buenos Aires. Maximum speed estimated now 12 knots. (R.A.S.A.D., to ASTURIAS, 0857Z/1)

W.S. 3C. Left Capetown 1/11. E.T.A. Aden (date) (Capt. i/c. Simonstown 1130 Z/1).

BELGIQUE due Bahia Blanca 21/10 from Milford Haven 18/9 has not arrived (S.O.(I) Freetown 1802/1)

CARNARVON CASTLE. Cannot dock at Capetown. Proposing that repairs be postponed until voyage to Mombasa completed. Reasons. (S.N.O. Simonstown 1707 B/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

MALAYA. retubing.	Your 1457/20. Possibility of Italians having 6 capital ships in near future. Proposals re MALAYA retubing. (1 S.L., to C.in C. Med., 0047/1) See Mediterranean Volume.
URSULA.	Request instructions for onward passage. (F.O.C. N.A. to C.in C. Med., 1120/1).
Air attacks on enemy landing grounds and bases.	Night 30/31 Oct. Tobruk attacked. R.C. of coast 31/10. Remainder military (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1430/1).
Enemy and Greek Intelligence.	Summary of aircraft reports (V.A. Malta 1859/1).
FORMIDABLE.	Proposals re (1st S.L. 1955/1 to C.in C. Med.) See Mediterranean Volume.
Air Report.	Action off Matruh, Jerawla, Qasaba. 8 enemy A/C destroyed, 4 damaged; 5 British lost or damaged but 3 pilots sage. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1431/1, 1432/1).
Air Attack on Naples.	One probable hit in refinery area, one near miss railway junction. Proposals for renewed attacks (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1640/1)
Air R.C.	Malta Situation report to 1700/1 (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1840/1).
French Fleet.	Reply to Admty. 1649/28. My view whatever happens Adm. Godfroy will himself give no order for offensive action against us nor attempt to break out of harbour. Danger of an internal coup. (C.in C. Med., 2145/1).
Operation, M.W.3, BARHAM.	My 1315/30. Necessary to defer sailing of Fleet (date) to enable M.T. ships and oilers for Suda Bay to be included in M.W.3. Sailing of BARHAM should consequently be deferred by one day. (C.in C. Med., 1829/1).

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Italian Campaign Against Greece.

British Mission.	C.O.S. telegram 22 to Sir M. Palairet, Athens, proposing one Mission dealing with Naval, Military and Air Liaison, Rear Adm. Turle at its head. (D.C., 0041/1, to C.in C. Med.)
Help to Greece.	Urging importance of in preference to help to Turkey in the spring. (Brit. Minister, Athens, 0346/1, and Mr. Campbell, no T.O.O. (1, both to F.O.)
Greek war plans.	and assistance required now of British (N.A. Athens 1125/1, 1400/1) See Mediterranean Volume.
A/S, M/S, A/P, etc.	In order to provide craft suitable for these duties N.A. Athens is requested to charter vessels in Greek ports (A.C.N.S.C.F.) 2029/1)
Sitation.	From Military Attache to D.M.I. Presence of air units in Greece and operations against Italians in Albania essential if morale of civil population is to be kept up. Aid in Crete is considered inoffensive self-help, neither Staff nor population fear Italian invasion by sea while our fleet is afloat. (M.A. Athens 0200/1 to W.O.)
Operations 29/10-1/11	My 2159/28. Fleet left Alexandria at 0030/29. Period 30/10 to P.M./1 was spent in sweep on west coast of Greece as far as latitude 038° 30' N. Air reconnaissance as far as Corfu and Coast of Italy was carried out. Fleet went close to coast in order to be seen and two Tribals visited Navarin. No enemy ships seen at sea. Shore based reconnaisssance reported Italian main units in harbour throughout and only one small Merchant ship seen in Straits of Otranto. Course was set for Alexandria at 1800/1.

During this time convoy reported in my 0853/31 established party and stores at Suda Bay and was joined on 1/11 AJAX transporting Yorks and Lancashire Regt. WRYNECK and FAREHAM, and Oiler OLNA now sailing for Piraeus.
No sighting of Fleet by aircraft took place till 1120/30 and even then report was very probably from a submarine. Fleet was reported on 31/10 and 1/11 and on latter day Fulmars shot down one Cant 506 and damaged another. (C.in C. Med., 2159/1, 2201/1).

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CHAKDINA Bombed — CHAKDINA was bombed while on Perim Patrol at 0540 G.M.T./31. No damage reported. (C.in C. E.I. 0242 Z/1).

MAURETANIA. — Asking whether D. of S.T. will sanction accommodation being offered to approx. 200 passengers (S.S.T.O. Colombo 0702/1) Reply, see 2015/3.

W.S. Convoys. — Asking that he may be informed as early as possible of certain particulars. Complaint of insufficient information. Details. (C.in C. E.I. 0622Z/1 to D. of S.T.)

WARLABY, WESTBURY, PERSEUS — At Suez, insufficient speed for convoy. Most undesirable they should be immobilized at Suez. Request you consider sailing them ahead of B.S. 8, time of sailing being adjusted so that maximum cover is provided in most dangerous area. (D.T.D. 1521/1 to C.in C. E.I.)

GNAT. — Cancel GNAT'S 1420/26/10. Programme now. GNAT and oiler SLAVOL left KHOR KUWAI 31/10, due Aden 0700Z/3, fuelling KHORYA MORYA Bay. (C.in C. E.I. 0624Z/1.)

A/ Requisitioned OLTENIA and STELA ROMANA — R.A. Malaya's 0509/27/10 and S.S.T.O. India's 1140/31/10. It appears Masters, some upper deck and all engineer officers will have to be provided from U.K. If this can be arranged request probable date of arrival so that despatch of available personnel from India can be timed. (C.in C. E.I. 0724Z/1).

Sinking of enemy destroyer by KIMBERLEY and R.A.F. bombing of destroyer 21/10. — My 1500/27/10.
(i) Photograph taken at 1245 G.M.T. 21/10 just after hitting bomb was released but before bomb struck shows the position of the bombed destroyer was 16° 31.5' N. 40° 11.3' E.
(ii) FRANCESCO NULLO was sunk by torpedo 0335 G.M.T. 21/10. Pilot of a reconnaissance aircraft saw this ship lying on her side beneath the water on 23/10.
(iii) KIMBERLEY reports that measurement of splinters indicates that shell which hit ship was approximately seven inches. Nosecap about five inches shell also found on board fired from shore. Position of battery 016° 31' N. 040° 11' E. Four fixed guns. Maximum range 15000 yds. (C.in C. E.I. 0946Z/1.)

/ Sd. MAYOR .....

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

U.S.N. Co-operation. My 1844/21 and your 0817/22. Re Comdr. Wisden joining C.in C., Asiatic Fleet, and cypher and special table to be taken. Production of S.P.'s essential for co-operation of two fleets is in hand. (D.N.I. 1540/1 to C.in C. China).

Shanghai Shipping. Admty. 1133/24. List of ships due to depart Shanghai shortly. Considered most will be required for Government service. (C.in C. China, 0551/1).

Conference. Telegraph summary of report has been sent to Adty. in C.in C's cypher. (C.in C. China 0623Z/1 for A.N.C.B.)

Discussion with Australia re military supplies. (G.O.C., Malaya to W.O. 1825/1).

De Schompre. Re establishing basis of operations (C.in C. China 1021Z/1).

Dutch Co-operation. Interchange of information agreed to by Dutch Govt. (1st S.L. 2152/1 to C.in C. China). Questionnaire (1st S.L. 2236/1 to C.in C. China).

Far East Combined Intelligence Bureau. Ref. 85980 cipher (M.O.2) 21/10. In para. 7 for War Office read Admiralty (W.O. 2015/1).

America and West Indies.

CAMERON GEORGETOWN. Your 1540/31, re sailing for U.K. Yes, provided you are satisfied as to their seagoing efficiency. They may be retained if necessary to sail with Group due to leave St. Johns N.F. on 3/11. (F.O. 3 B.S. 0314/1)

Martinique JEANNE D'ARC. U.S.A. Patrol. Navy Dept. inform me that U.S. Naval observation has been established at Martinique off Fort de France, and what ever port JEANNE D'ARC may be in, consisting of one destroyer off each place with daylight patrols by aircraft. They have been directed to maintain contact in case of movement. (N.A. Washington 1219/1 to Adty.)

CUBA. (see Vichy French). Navy Dept. inform me of information received from Martinique that 1200 French Naval reservists left there for Casablanca in French S.S. CUBA at 1700/24/10. (B.N.A. Washington 1224/1 to Adty.)

/ S.S. SAVOIE .....

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (Continued)

S.S. SAVOIE — Navy Department informs me of report from Casablanca that S.S. SAVOIE with Senegalese soldiers and equipment leaves there today November 1st for Dakar.
(N.A. Washington 1230/1 to Adty.)

ARUBA
BONAIRE — My 1056/26/10 Curacao reports Dutch ship ARUBA expected ready for sea about 20/11 Dutch Ship BONAIRE not until new year.
(S.O.(I) Kingston 1252/1.)

Bermuda
C.C.Centre. — Your 1231/22/10. Concur. One Lieutenant Commander R.N.R. with Contraband experience will be sent from U.K. at first opportunity. Proceed with local organisation forthwith. Commencing today all communications will pass between Adty. and C.in C.
(D.E.W.D. 1916/1 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

H.X. 85.
Town class
destroyers. — HALIFAX departures 1/11 ASSINBOINE local escort RAJPUTANA ocean escort H.X. 85. 2nd groups 4th Town Destroyer FLOTILLA, LEWES LEEDS, MONTGOMERY, STANLEY, CHURCHILL, SHERWOOD United Kingdom via St. John's N.F.
(S.O.(I) Halifax 2031/1.)

Australia.

HOBART
PERTH
CANBERRA. — Intend to relieve HOBART by PERTH at Aden about 12/12. PERTH will escort U.S.7 to 020° N. in the Red Sea. Flag of F.O. Australia Squadron will be transferred temporarily to CANBERRA about 18/11 and subsequently to HOBART about 18/12.
(N.B. Melbourne 1151Z/1)

Dutch patrols. — Your 1218/28. View held here is that proposed use of mandated territorial waters by Dutch would not consitute establishment of naval base and would not therefore be infringement of mandate. On account of additional distance involved, use of Papua as alternative would be unsatisfactory. Request therefore that decision may be reconsidered in light of above.
(Hd. of M. 1639/1 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

RIO GRANDE. Sailed from Rio Grande do Sul at 2210 local time 31/10. (C.in C. S.A. to S.A. Sqdn., 0509 N/1)(S.O.I., Montevideo 0146Z/1, 0230Z/1) Plans to intercept - see South Atlantic. To be reported by W/T if sighted. Description.(Freetown W/T 0754/1 to All British M.V's.).

CHIPKA Bulgarian, under German charter, arrived Galatz from Istanbul 30/10 with general cargo for Germany (D.S. 423).

TRAPANI. Reported put on the Genoa, Barcelona, Tarragona, Valencia run.
Last reported at Genoa. (D.S. 424).

GALILEA. At Palermo, requires inspection of shaft and bottom. (D.S. 424).

MOST SECRET.

1.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1106. D.F. probable U/B 56.20 N., 13.40 W., unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 1147/1).

0325 and 1044. 58° to 60° N., 18° to 20° W., position indefinite. (D.S., 423).

1206. 50 to 100 miles radius of 49° N., 11° W., position indefinite (D.S. 424).

1022. F/48 reports on landing CALENDULA signalled 1022 that she had made contact by Asdic in position 54° 28' N. 5° 05' W. and was leaving convoy on bearing of 260° to investigate. A/C remained with her until 1140 when CALENDULA signalled that she had lost contact with supposed submarine. A/C then proceeded on patrol. (Aldergrove 1400/1).

Estimated U/B dispositions.

Italian - No news.

German - Probably 5 in N.W. Approaches and farther W. of which 1 was in about 56° 20' N. 13° 40' W. at 1106/1.
1 in Area 58° to 60° N: 18° to 20° West at 1044/1: a third may be somewhere about 55° N. and W. of 20° W. and a fourth possibly in area 56° N. 9° to 10° W; whereabouts of fifth unknown.
1 possibly between Faroes and Scotland homeward bound.
(D.D.I.C. 1237/1).

Submarines Attacked.

U. 237. sunk 30/10. Arrived HIGHLANDER with 4 U/B prisoners. Also arrived HARVESTER (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0145/1).

1610. Suspected U/B attacked by A/C 57.50 N., 1.55 W. (B.4). (D.S. 424).

Your 1330 not to H.M.S. VERDUN.
H.M.S. WATCHMAN's transmitter may be out of action. FS 23 estimated expected time of arrival at position S 1400.
1401/1.

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MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Patrol — VANOC and VOLUNTEER last night patrolled to the east of Portsmouth as cover for Convoy C.E. 15.

ATTENDANT — (Tug) is reported aground and a total loss on Canna Island, Hebrides.

Convoy C.E.15 shelled — Convoy C.E. 15 was shelled off Dover this morning but no damage resulted.

U-Boat sunk — ANTELOPE sank a U-Boat this afternoon off the north west of Ireland.

German Tanker torpedoed — TAKU at 0230 today attacked a large homeward bound tanker in the Bay of Biscay and estimates 3 hits for certain. The ship may possibly be the German GEDANIA.

British Air Activity

11 Blenheims of Coastal Command last night attacked gun positions between Calais and Ambleteuse. Results were not observed. One aircraft was lost.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

An usuccessful attempt was made to bomb the Forth Bridge last night.

Both F.N. Convoys were unsuccessfully attacked several times this afternoon in the Thames Estuary.

SS STROGNVALD was attacked 4 miles east of Todhead early this afternoon.

Ships of Convoy W.N. 26 stranded off Rattray Head were bombed this evening, but no damage appears to have been caused.

4 bombs were dropped near the Nore Light Vessel at 0100 today.

SS HOUSTON CITY (mined and beached 21/10 near Oaze Deep) was bombed again today (see 1/11). Salvage operations have been abandoned.

M/S Trawler SICYON was machine-gunned 8 miles East of Scapa this afternoon.

Surrey Commercial Docks were attacked this evening and a bomb fell near the centre of the yard.

Considerable damage to private property occurred in a raid on Ramsgate this morning. Other Coastal towns in Kent were also attack

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

INTREPID was mined off Hartlepool early this morning. Both engines were damaged, but she reached Hartlepool.

M/S Trawler RINOVIA was mined and sunk off Falmouth this morning.

P.L.A. Tugs DEANBROOK and LEA were sunk in Tilbury Basin this morning by a magnetic or acoustic mine.

M/S Trawler RADNOR CASTLE and Patrol vessel MEDOC were damaged by the detonation of a mine at Plymouth and were beached.

Another small wooden drifter with diesel engine was blown up off Inchkeith today. C. in C., Rosyth considers this appears to confirm that the sound or vibration of the diesel ~~direct~~ engine actuates the acoustic mine; and this may assist to solve the problem of sweeping these mines.

Rosyth was completely opened at 1743.
Humber was opened at 0820.

Mines were found today at Belfast, Dover, Plymouth, Harwich and Humber. Cardiff, Avonmouth, Newport, Swansea and Barry were closed at 0700.

Between 2100/1 and 0100/2 mine laying raids by enemy aircraft were reported in the Firth of Forth and Firth of Tay. Minelaying aircraft were also active last night off the East Coast and Thames Estuary.

6 Hampdens last night laid mines in the Brest area.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

C. in C. Meditn. reports troops and guns landed and net defence established at Suda Bay. The majority of his force has left for Alexandria.

Two air raids were made on Malta between 1130 and 1230 today, and some damage was done to Luqa aerodrome. Two enemy planes were destroyed (one by A/A fire) and probably a third, and two damaged.

Consul General, Salonika reports that great destruction and loss of life have been caused in the centre of Salonika by Italian bombing. After the latest raid 500 casualties, mostly women and shildren were treated. The hospitals are full and medical supplies almost exhausted.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

2 Blenheims today attacked the main pier supply depot, and warehouses at Assab.

Enemy aircraft attacked Perim, no damage was caused.

KIMBERLEY was unsuccessfully bombed off Jebel Zukur Island (Red Sea) this morning.

China

C. in C., China reports that the situation in Indo China is gradually deteriorating as regards British interests

Exports to all countries are allowed wxcept to the British Empire. No British ships are allowed in Indo China Ports. He suggest the time has come to retaliate.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE — At 0200/2. (D.C. 0201/2) At 1400/2 (D.C. 1406/2)

Movements

Nore Command — Movements for night 2/3. (C. in C., Nore, 0800/2 Movements to 1200/3. (C. in C.,Nore 1200/2)

Dover — Patrols for night 2/3. (V.A.Dover 1426/2)

PEONY, SALVIA, GLOXINIA, HYACINTH — My 1518/1. PEONY and SALVIA should be sailed for Liverpool as soon as possible. Stores for all ships being sent to Liverpool. Ships to be ready to sail on 8/11 (D.O.D. H. 1617/2 to C. in C., Nore)

CURACOA — F.O.C.D.F. H.F. 1025/2. Can be berthed in basin, entering about 1700/4. (N. Supt. Rosyth 1808/2 to C. in C., H.F.)

NORTHERN SPRAY — Using Route P. (NORTHERN SPRAY 2300/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Operations

Convoy Shelled — C.E. 15 passed Dover. About 8 rounds from Calais Battery fell near No. 1. Buoy. No damage reported. (V.A.DOver 0645/2 to Adty.)

Operation FRUIT — My 1839/1. Operation cancelled for today owing to high visibility. (V.A.Dover 0843/2 to H.C.F.C.)

Operation WHITE — Adty's 2231/31. Route for ARGUS and DESPATCH from Clyde to Gibraltar. Destroyer escort VESPER, VENOMOUS, WINDSOR remain in company as far West as endurance permits and then fuel at Londonderry and to Nore via Rosyth. (C. in C., W.A. 1651/2 to N.O.I.C. Greenock)

Your 1313/30. ARGUS proceeds to Greenock 1200/3, loading having been completed. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1734/2 to Adty)

/Adty. 2231/31.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Operation WHITE-Contd.

Adty. 2231/31. Amend as follows. Para 1. DESPATCH and ARGUS to be sailed a.m./7 so as to enter Straits of Gibraltar after dark on 13/11. Para 2. Cancel reference to HURRY. Both ships to join Force H. from arrival at Gibraltar until completion of Operation WHITE. (A.C.N.S. F. 2325/2 to C. in C., W.A.)

2 E-Boats off Aldeburgh

LADY SHIRLEY on patrol H.U. reports that last night at about 2210 sighted E boat stopped 2 miles S.S.E. from Aldeburgh Float. Opened fire at about 300 yards with 12 pdr. and Lewis gun. No reply from E.Boat who immediately made off at high speed to the S.E. A second E-Boat was seen disappearing at high speed just before fire was opened. It appears likely that mines had been laid to the south of Aldeburgh light float but to the eastward of 148 [illegible] Failure to sink E-Boat was mainly due to lack of illuminants. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1229/2 to C. in C., Nore.)

Submarines

O, 24.

Reports attacked Northbound M/V 1200 tons off Holmengraa at 0900/29/10. Estimates not hit. Regular Air Patrols between Holmengraa and Kors Fiord. (V.A.S. 0957/2 to Adty.)

TRIDENT

Intend sail, escorted by SURPRISE, at 0800/3 from Clyde for Plymouth. E.T.A. 0900/5. (S. 2. 1023/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

H. 43.

In harbour (C. in C., W.A. 1600/2)

Positions

For following 24 hours at 0700/3 (V.A.S. 1631/2)

L. 27.

In W. 2. and S. 3. (C. in C., Portsmouth 1747/2)

Proposed re-distribution of Submarines and Depot Ships

Your 1829/1. Approved (V.C.N.S. 2111/2 to V.A.S.)

/Attack on.....

/TAKU.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Submarines-Contd.

TAKU / TUNA } My 1902/28. For 40 miles read 20 miles. Capt S. 2. 2154/2. to TUNA)

Provision of S/M's for A/S Training and Practices C. in C., W.A.'s 1331/12. Decision as to allocation of S/M's (V.C.N.S. 1143/2)

British Air Activity

Air Reconnaissance None possible on night 1/2. (C. in C., Nore 0639/2)

Patrol H.C. A.C.O.S. 7818/19/9. Times from 4/11 to 10/11 (Hatston 0955/2)

Fighters for Shetlands F.O.C's 0910/31. Request F.O.C.S. be asked to take up matter directly with A.O.C. 14 Group (Air Ministry 1114/2 to Adty.) Your 0910/31. Air Ministry concur and request you arrange direct with 14 Group R.A.F. (D. of L.D. 1206/2 to F.O.C.S.)

Patrol S.A. 2. Cancelled this p.m. except 2 southern tracks (C. in C., Rosyth 1344/2 to Adty.) A.M. sortie cancelled by Coastal Command until further notice. (C. in C., Rosyth 1508/2 to Adty.)

Belfast. Orders to Ships to fire on A/C Your 1737/31. Request that present arrangements be allowed to stand. Reasons. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1446/2 to Adty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Nore L.V. Danube 5 reports at 0100 Four whistling bombs dropped from aircraft passing West to East and exploded in approx. position 11 cables 078° from Nore L.V.(D.O.D. Sheerness 0250/2 to C. in C., Nore) (S.O.T.L.D.F. 1115/2 to C. in C., Nore.)

Horsea Island 2 bombs dropped at 1200/1. Minor damage, estimate £22. (Supt. C.E. Portsmouth, 1045/2 to C.E. in C.)

/Attack on.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Attack on Enemy Aircraft at night by M/V's in Convoy.	My 1715/1. Amend second sentance to read With this exception any aircraft not recognised as friendly approaching within range should immediately be engaged as hitherto. (D.T.D. 1148/2 to A.I.G.)
-DEANBROOK LEA	Tugs. Sunk by H.E. Bombs in Tilbury Basin at 1130. 5 dead, 4 missing, 3 wounded. No warning of aircraft. (F.O.I.C. London. 1325/2. Now certain they were sunk by magnetic or acoustic mine, not bombs. (F.O.I.C. London 1250/3)
Convoy AGENT	Enemy bombing Convoy in 51° 41' N., 1° 20'E 2 bombs, no hits.(WOLFHOUND 1325 and 1337/2) Bombing convoy (WOLFHOUND 1449/2) Many bombs, no hits (WOLFHOUND 1452/2) Bombs. No hits (WOLFHOUND 1505 and 1512/2)
SICYON	M/S Trawler. Gunned by aircraft at 1430/1 in 58° 52' N., 2° 37' W. (A.C.O.S. 1414/2 to Admty.)
Convoy F.N. 25	Aircraft bombing Convoy PILOT in 58° N., 1° 48' E., (WOLFHOUND 1604/2)
Ramsgate	Attacked at 1125/2 by 10 to 30 Bombers with large Fighter Escort. At least 75 H.E. Bombs dropped. Damage. 6 civilians killed and 23 injured. No naval damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. 1630/2 to Adty.) Fu rther report. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1123/3)
Rattray Head	At 1818/2 Rattray Coastguards reported unidentified aircraft flying south at 1814 and then reported bombs dropping in vicinity of ships stranded in Strathbeg Bay. At 1825 Rattray reported planes had made off in a southerly direction. Ships do not appear to be damaged. Two salvoes were dropped and owing to darkness cannot ascertain if any damage done. (C. in C., Rosyth 2259/2 to H.Q.F.C.)

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

HUNDVAAG (Norwegian, 690 tons)	Ship mined about 1 to 2 cables West of No 1 Buoy formerly South Goodwin L.V. Not been possible to mark wreck. (V.A.Dover 0001/ and 0055/2 to FERNIE) Sunk at 1950/1. 14 survivors and pilot arrived Dover in ship's boat. One missing and one injured. (V.A.Dover 0730/2 to Adty.)
INTREPID	Mine exploded close to starboard quarter in 54° 39' N., 0° 53' W. Both engines out of action. Request Tug. (INTREPID 0243/2 to C. in C., Nore.) Am proceeding towards Hartlepool. Tug not now wanted. (INTREPID 0329/2 to C. in C., Nore)
Tyne	Closed. Suspected Mining. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0745/2) Open (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1001/2)
Milford Haven	Closed. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0745/2) Open in daylight only, subject to local restrictions. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1226 and 1916/2) One Red Mine detonated by single LL in 260° No 4 buoy one cable. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1849/2)
Humber	Open (F.OHumber 0820/2) M/S Trawler MONIMIA and 19 Group begin sweeping at 2100/2 from Sheringham Light Buoy to 62.D.Buoy. (N.O.I.C. Humber 1720/2 to EGLINTON)
	Self-detonated Mines exploded. At 0930/2 in 68° 1A Buoy 4 miles, at 1620/2 in 117° P.W.S.S. 2.25 miles, at 1650/2 in 117° P.W.S.S. 2.15 miles (F.O.Humber 1820/2 to Admty.)
Cardiff Avonmouth Newport Swansea Barry	Closed at 0700/2. Suspected Mines. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0952/2)
Belfast	LL detonated one small Red Mine 50° 3.8 miles from Pile Light (F.O.I.C. Belfast 0955/2)

/RINOVIA.....

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

RINOVIA — (M/S Trawler) Mined nd sunk 154½ St. Anthony Light 2.9 miles. 4 survivors. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1058/2)

Dover — 1 mine cut by Oropesa Trawlers in QZS 105 1.2 miles 35° from No 4 Buoy. (V.A.Dover 1251/2)

DEANBROOK
LEA — See Air

Plymouth — One Red Mine detonated by LL at 0825/2 in 189° 3.6 miles from Breakwater Light. (C. in C., W.A. 1536/2)

Owing to presence of mines in Hamoaze it has become necessary to stop all traffic above Flag Staff steps. H.M.S. REVENGE has been berthed in No 5 Basin and could not proceed out of harbour without considerable risk. (C. in C., W.A. 1942/2 to Admty.)

RADNOR CASTLE
MEDOC — 1. My 0102/2. Oropesa trawler RADNOR CASTLE has detonated mine near number eight buoy Hamoaze. Several minor casualties to personnel. RADNOR CASTLE damaged and beached on Torpoint side. Slight damage also to M.S. MEDOC beached on Yoderberry Point Trot. Mine was detonated by manoeuvring engines of trawler and it seems certain that it was operated on the acoustic principle.

2. Mine with parachute attached is situated near Bull Point nearly vertical. Nearly three feet of mine above mud at low water. Mine is marked in Green D. 350. (C. in C., W.A. 1946/2 to Adty.)

Firth of Forth
Drifter Mined — Another small wooden drifter with diesel 3 cylinder 66 H.P. engine blown up by a mine today in 072° Inchkeith Light 750 yards. Two similar motor drifters were in the vicinity. This would appear to confirm that the sound or vibration of a diesel engine provokes the acoustic mine and if these sounds or vibrations can be reproduced and projected the problem of sweeping the acoustic mine in Approach Channels can be largely solved. (C. in C., Rosyth 1603/2 to Adty.)

/Rosyth....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

Rosyth — Cancel my 2155/1. Rosyth Approach Channel between 2° 52' W., and West Gate Inchkeith is open. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1743/2 to Adty)

Harwich — 3 Fleet Sweepers continued clearance. One Mine cut 51° 59.3' N., 1° 45.8' E., Two mines found in sweep near 54 A Buoy, exact position unknown. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1803/2 to Adty.)

Enemy Intelligence

3 Destroyers off Ile Vierge — At 0802/2, course 250° speed 30 knots. Aircraft report (C. in C., W.A. 1019/2 to C.S. 19 and V.A.S. 1034/2 to submarines Area B)

Shetlands — One small slow vessel at 2042/1 bearing 158° 3 miles from Sumbrough, course 037°, speed 10½ knots. Unidentified. (A.C.O.S. 1203/2 to Adty.)

German Hospital Towing Barge — My 1440/1. Amendment of description as to W/T equipment. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1300/2 to Admty.)

Brest — 5 destroyers and 2 M/V's seen 2/11. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth 1335/2 to H.Q. 15 (C. in C., W.A. 1501/2 to C.S. 10)

Norwegian Coast — Indications of southward movement from Tronheim to Skaggerak. Unit expected arrive S.W. Norwegian Area today. (V.A.S. 1612/2 to STURGEON)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS

WOLVES	A/S Trawler. A/S gear out of action. (N.O.I.C Oban 0106/2 to C. in C., W.A.)
ST. CYRUS	Tug. My 1535/21/10. Repairs completed 1200/1 and now ready for duty. (F.O.Humber 0955/2 to Adty.)
GRANBY	Refloated 1615/1. Expect dock p.m/2. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1001/2)
GUNEY	My 0945/B/31. Arrived Cape Town. (S.O.I. Capetown 1015/B/2)
LORD MELCHETT	My 1740/30. Expects sail p.m./4 (F.O.I.C. 1645/2)
WIDESTONE	British, 3192 tons. At anchor Lough Goyle. Steering gear disabled. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2101/2)
DAHLIA	British (5000 tons) carrying military stores went ashore about 0300 G.M.T. 31st October about 7 miles north of Mombasa. Cargo is being unloaded into lighter. Earliest po sible date of refloating 15th November. Unlikely to refloat before 30th November. (C. in C., E.Indies 1202Z/2nd to Admty.)
Boat	Aircraft report boat had small sail and appeared to be making for coast. Boat may fire red flares and was given 4 flame floats. At 0815/3 be in position 090° Duncansby Head 20 miles to co-operate with air search from Wick. (R.A.D. H.F. 2345/2 to DOUGLAS)
H.M. 46	[illegible]
Air Escort	[illegible]
H.M. 29	[illegible]
H.M. 30	[illegible]

/H.M. Ships....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Convoys

Shipping

Situation at 2000/2 (C. in C., W.A. 1440/2)

F.N. 25 — WOLFHOUND escorting. Code word Pilot. (C. in C., Nore, 1543/2)

H.X. 83 — 7 hours late. (ASCANIA, 1700/2) Meet. (C. in C., W.A. 1615/2 to ACTIVE, ACHATES, ANTELOPE, PICOTEE)

H.X. 86 — Ocean escort VOLTAIRE, returning to Halifax (R.A. 3 B.S. 1037/2)

O.B. 238 — O.B. 238 (non evasive) sailed 1250/2 8 ships 9 knots escort CASTLETON, WHITEHALL, VANQUISHER, FLEUR DE LYS. (N.S.C.O. Liverpool, 1501/2)

Intend sailing COIMBRA damaged gun platform and short 250 tons oil fuel also FLAMINIAN damaged topsides in company with Convoy O.B. 238 to R/V off Oversay after which Trawler WOLVES will escort these two ships to Greenock. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1651/2)

O.B. 240 — Details and routes (W.C.S.O. Liverpool 1802/2

O.G. 45 — Detach SALOPIAN at 1200/2 to join as ocean escort. (C. in C., W.A. o CORNWALL, 0122/2) Estimate SALOPIAN will join O.G. 45 before dark 3/11 to take over ocean escort. (C. in C., W.A. 1441/2 to WANDERER, CLARE WILD SWAN) Sailing telegram (6. in C., W.A. 1941/2)

S.C. 9. — Amend route (C. in C., W.A. 1607/2, to DEPTFORD)

O.B.M. Milford Haven — In the event of anchorage at Milford Haven becoming restricted through enemy mining it is proposed to use Barry Roads as Assembly Port for O.B.M. Convoys. Request your remarks. (C. in C., W.A. 1909/2)

H.G. 46 — Escort INGLEFIELD, WELLINGTON. Position (F.O.C.N.A., to ARK ROYAL 2220/2)

Air Escort — Your 1340/29, re Air escort for independently routed fast ships for U.K. is not clear. Ship of 14 knots arriving 010° West at 0600 would arrive Clyde or Belfast the same day as date in Vesca (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent 1100/2 to Admty.)

W.N. 29 — WOLVES failed to locate remainder. A/S gear out of action (N.O.I.C. Oban, 0106/2)

W.N. 30 — 1047/2. Trawlers NORTHERN WAVE, SAON. (N.C.S.O Greenock, 1152/2)

/W.N. Lights.....

HOME COMMANDS

Convoys-Contd

Shipping

W.N. Lights	Your 1645/1, re exhibition of various lights Concur. W.A.C.I.'s will be amended. (C. in C. W.A. 1935/2)
BAUDOUIN	Falmouth closed, intend sailing BAUDOUIN 1700/2. Portland unescorted to Milford Haven. for onward routeing to Invergordon. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 1058/2) Postponed, weather (1409/2)
Risks of Collison	Warning to Commodores always to keep to starboard side of centre line of swept channels, to reduce risk of collision in foggy weather and long nights. (D.T.D., 1612/2 to A.I.C. 47)
Troop Convoys	
FRANCONIA) WINDSOR CASTLE)	Admty. 1340/29 and 1509/31. Route and personnel (D.T.D., 1201/2, to C. in C., W.A)
EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA	Due Clyde 3/11 with 71 officers and 2399 O.R. for disembarkation, Gourock (D.S.T. 1638/2)
ALMANZORA HIGHLAND MONARCH WARWICK CASTLE CLAN LAMONT CLAN CHATTAN	Sailed. Details of personnel (P.S.T.O. Clyde 2000/2)
W.S. 4 A	Sailed CORNWALL, CAIRO, SALOPIAN, OTTAWA, SKEENA, SAGUENAY, HESPERUS, BEAGLE, BULLDOG escorting Clyde portion of convoy W.S. 4 A in accordance with C. in C., W.A. 1545/28. SALOPIAN to part company in accordance with F.O.C.N.P. 2220/30 (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0206/2)
Aircraft at Malta	To avoid U-Boat reported in 56° 12' N. 10° 12' W. W.S. 4 A alter course forthwith to pass through 55° 00' N., 12° 00' W. then 54° 00' N., 25° 00' W then route previously ordered. (C. in C., W.A. 1415/2 to CORNWALL etc.)

/ADDA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Troop Convoys Contd.	**Shipping**
ADDA	Admty. 1805/1. Owing to exposed anchorage Thorshaven and other local considerations it may be necessary to effect transfer militray in Skaale Fiord. Request ADDA and escorts may be informed accordingly and warned of floating mines in Faroese Waters (N.O.I.C. Faores, 1549/2)
STRATHAIRD ORCADES	STRATHAIRD is to be kept in company if possible. Route for STRATHAIRD and ORCADES from 52° 00' N., 21° 00' W., and thence to Clyde. Instruct liners that, in order to minimise risk of air attack, they are to cross the meridian of 10° 00' W., at 0600 B.S.T. on day before arrival. (C. in C., W.A. 1945/2 to KENYA)
BERA, Swedish Tanker	Swedish Admty informs me that representations are being made by their Minister at London to obtain permission for tanker BERA to bring fuel oil and petrol from Gulf of Mexico for use of Swedish Navy. German consent has been obtained and Sweden would be grateful if British Admiralty would also grant permission. (N.A.Stockholm 1542/2)
Aircraft W. of 7° W.	When to the Westward of 7° West, merchant ships in convoy have been instructed not to open fire on aircraft at night unless they are attacked. With this exception any aircraft not recognised as friendly approaching within range of merchant ships' or fishing vessels' guns may be engaged immediately by day or night. Admty. 1059/27/8 is cancelled. (D.T.D. 1248/2)
Aircraft at Night	My 1715, re merchant ships in convoy opening fire on aircraft at night, amend second sentence to read: With this exception any aircraft not recognised as friendly approaching within range should immediately be engaged as hitherto. (D.T.D. 1148/2)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

SAVOIE — Reported left Casablanca 1/11 for Dakar with Sengalese soldiers and equipment (D.D.I.C. 0748/2)

CANADA
SAN FRANCISCO
WINNIPEG — Repatriation of Frenchmen, arrive home waters (dates (D.D.D. (H) 1522/2)

French Prisoners, Dakar — 55. Your 1809/25, re exchange of prisoners. French officer who crossed frontier from Dakar into Gambia 30/10 states he believes that Bois Lambert is still in hospital at Dakar, wounded and awaiting trial be special commission coming from France in about 14 days. Scamaroni has been detained at Dakar. Soufflet, Gaillet, Pecunia, Sallerin, Joimassi and Moulenes have been removed to Koulikor. (C. in C., S.A., 1703/2 to Admty.)

French Aircraft — Sighted French Vichy aircraft at 1700 in position 070° B 12 who kept well clear but afterwards cicled PRESIDENT HOUDUCE more closely. Latter reported her as probably Glen Martin type but she did not approach close enough to DEVONSHIRE to confirm this with certainty. Aircraft last seen making for Libreville. (DEVONSHIRE 1841/2 to F.O.I.C.S.)

French M.V. — Report received from Master Belgian MOBEKA on arrival Takoradi of sighting Vichy French merchant vessel at 1600 G.M.T./26/10 in position 008° 30' N., 019° 40' W., course S.S.E. Description old passenger ship of about 8000 tons gross tonnage fully loaded. (C. in C., S.A. 1037/2)

Dakar Troopships — My 1606/24 to D. of N.I., re arrival of troopships at Dakar. N.C.S.O. Para reports arrival 30/10 AFFONSO PENNA and ITAPE, latter with 8 German Seamen. (S.O.I. Freetown, 0802/2 to Admty.)

/CUBA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French-Contd.

CUBA
Interception

You are to proceed at 1800/2 to R.V. with DRAGON and MORETON BAY in company with French ship CUBA in position 010° 40' N., 022° 00' W., at noon 5/11. After making contact you are to act as ordered by DRAGON and to be prepared to fuel CUBA at sea if possible. (C. in C., S.A. 1315/2 to OLWEN.)

Your 1121/1 and Admty 1636/1 acknowledged. My position course and speed are Noon N/2 021° 05' 027° 19', 183° 12. CUBA in company Intend to pass through position 014° 27', 027° 35' at 2000 N/3 thence to rendezvous in your 1315N/2 (MORETON BAY to C. in C., S.A. 1800N/2)

My 1800N/2. Part two.
Have placed Liaison Officer and one telegraphist on board. Relations amenable at present but absolute breakdown started last night with steering gear, now reports cannot do more than 12 knots.
Following possibilities
(1) A staged complete breakdown off Cape Verde Is.
(2) A prearranged rendezvous with Dakar ships. Despite denial have definte proof by bearings and ranges that ship was on south-east course when intercepted.
Some Naval ratings time expired but not clear why remainder being sent back. No confirmation of gold. Book not produced when all cargo manifest asked for. Have not asked direct questions in case steps should be taken to hide in the event of search at sea. (MORETON BAY, 1805N/2, to C. in C., S.A.)

MASSILIA
DJIENNE
VICTORIA

Your 1751/1. Following from French Admty. has crossed it (Begins)
(1) MASSILIA will leave Casablanca 4/11 and will follow route instructed. Ordered DJIENNE leave Marseilles 1/11 and will make her arrival Gibraltar 4/11 by daylight. She has orders to follow same route as MASSILIA and will probably be at point D 9/11.
(3) French N.A. will be informed immediately date VICTORIA can sail is known (ends)
As DJIENNE has sailed submit she be asked proposed time of arrival in 52° N., 14° W when passing Gibraltar, 2042/2)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SHEFFIELD

Admty. 2211/29. Leave patrol to arrive Gibraltar a.m./5. (S.O.Force H., 0926/2) My 0926. Fuel permitting, for a.m./5 read a.m./6. (F.O.Force H., 2133/2)

Reported that on 31/10 a warship which appeared to be a cruiser went round island Saint Michael Azores at average distance of 16 miles being 1345 G.M.T. in 37° 25' N., 25° 17' W., disappearing towards East. If no reply is received from you it will be assumed that this ship was SHEFFIELD. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1345/2 to SHEFFIELD)

ARK ROYAL

Admty. 1553/1. Adjust speed to arrive norther entrance at 1700Z-1,5/11, WISHART and VIDETTE will sail to R.V. with you. (F.O.C.N.A., to ARK ROYAL, 1544/2) Amended orders (F.O.C.N.A., 1208/2)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN

Your 1723/29. Request you defer sailing from Freetown (date) (F.O.C.N.A. to C. in C., S.A., 1730/2) My 1730. Escort situation necessitates further delay of 24 hours. Request you sail ship accordingly (F.O.C.N.A. 2314/2)

Enemy Aircraft Reconnassance

Situation report. Usual Martin reconnaissance aircraft flew over rock between 1545 and 1549 hours today and was driven off to south east by A.A. fire. (Govr. Gib., 2145/2 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Search For RIO GRANDE — My 0857/1. Sector 050° to 095° has been covered for 12 and 13 knots. ASTURIAS now (3 groups missing) 080° for 12 knots. Do your best for lower speeds South of 090° on passage to Buenos Aires. (R.A.S.A.D. 1034/2)

W.S. 3 A
W.S. 3 B — My 1639/31. Last sentence should be omitted. (SSTO Capetown, 0928/B/2)

ALMKERK — Reply to Admty. 1541/1. requesting route. (N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1021/2)

CAPETOWN CASTLE — Admty 1340/29. Asking if speed of CAPETOWN CASTLE should be adjusted to arrive Liverpool daylight. (N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1049B/2)

CARNARVON CASTLE — CARNARVON CASTLE's 1635/31 and your 1707/1 Ship is required to sail as soon as possible and repairs should not be taken in hand unless essential or can be completed while coaling. (C. in C., S.A.1153N/2, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)

BULOLO — Proceed through I 34 B and I 35 A. Remain in I 35 until further orders. (C. in C., S.A. to BULOLO, 1919N/2)

Unknown Tanker — MODASA reports tanker nationality unknown passing 6 miles east of position 004° 38' N 010° 42' W., at 1600/1 course-degrees 120. This might be NARVINN going at much slower speed than expected. (C. in C., S.A. 2019/2 to C.S.I)

GUNNY — Overdue shipping. My 0945B/31. GUNNY arrived Capetown (S.O.I. Capetown 1015B/2)

A.M.C.
Cargoes — Admty. 1226/19/10. Re arrangements with Elder Dempster Lines. To arrange and allow time for discharging and loading at both ends request date on which A.M.C. will be required back at Freetown may be communicated to me as early as possible with brief details of quantity and type of cargo being shipped to U.K. (V.A.N.P. 1024/2 to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

NARVAL	French submarine, arriving off Grand Harbour about 0001/3. (V.A.,Malta. to RORQUAL, 0911/2)
RORQUAL	Your 0142/2. Instructions for arrival. (V.A.Malta to RORQUAL, 0942/2)
MALAY retubing	Admty. 0047/1. Tubes already ordered to Port Said. Repair resources. Proposals. (C. in C., Med., 1041/2, to Admty.)
Convoy U.S. 5 A	With ULSTER PRINCE, arrived Suez a.m./2 (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal,1144/2)
Reinforcements, Operation "Hurry"	Suggest BARHAM be put in charge, although BERWICK senior officer. (S.O.Force H. to C. in C., Med., 1240/2) C. in C., Med., 1315/30. Propose leaving Gibraltar for Operation "Hurry" (date) To cover movements of ARGUS request her sailing may be adjusted (date) (S.O. Force H., to Admty., 1245/2)
BERWICK PASTEUR }	Guns, equipment and military personnel embarked in (D.O.D. (F) 1302/2)
TRITON	Orders for patrol. (Capt. S.1. 1345/2)
Operations, Names	Propose following: (a) Forthcoming operations, "Coat" (b) Reinforcements, Force F. (c) Remainder, Force B. As sinking of HOSTILE appears to be explained by Q.B.B. 86, do you consider passage south of Skerki Bank now acceptable? (S.O.Force H to C. in C., Med. 1526/2) Cancel A.T. 2344/10/10. Impending operation given following names. Reinforcement with BARHAM, BERWICK, GLASGOW, 3 destroyers and transport of personnel to Malta, Operation "Coat" Air reinforcement of Malta by ARGUS, operation "White". Passage of 2 M.T. ships to Malta, Operation "Collar" (D.O.D. (F) to C. in C., Med., 2126/2)

/Air.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Air Reconnaissance — Malta situation up to 1700/2. (H.Q.Malta, 1730/2) Result of A/Recco. today. (V.A., Malta, 1845/2)

Operation — In view of C. in C., Med. 1821/1, add 24 hours to all times in my 1245/2. (S.O.Force H. 2147/2)

Alexandria — Own forces are now in vicinity and will probably be entering harbour from dawn to-morrow. (Capt. S. 1. to OSIRIS, 2303/2)

Enemy Intelligence — Prefer use of hospital ships TAIREA and (?FROUDPARA) unless pressed for extra accommodation. Hospital ships can be sailed to meet convoys at Imbros. (Movements, M.E. to Navy for A.C.N.B., 0949/2)

Italian Campaign Against Greece

Situation — My 0853/31. Troops and guns landed and net defence established Suda Bay. FAREHAM, WRYNECK and oiler OLNA left for Piraeus 0800/2. Remainder of force left for Alexandria via Kaso Straits at 0800/2. Suda and Canea raided by enemy aircraft yesterday only a few houses demolished and very few casualties. (C.O.I.C. Med., 0929/2 to Admty.)

Greek Submarines — Are operating south and east of line 200° from Cape Linguetta 40° 25'., 19° 18'. Keep north of latitude 40° 30'. (Capt. S. 1. to TRITON, 1031/2)

Enemy Air Attack — Re menace of Italian air bombing of civil population. Unless fighters sent, fear rapid collapse and we shall be utterly discredited. (Consul Gen., Salonika, telegrams 79 & 80 to F.O., 2245/2, 2250/2)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

DAHLIA Ashore

British ship DAHLIA with military stores went ashore about 0300 G.M.T./31/10 about 7 miles north of Mombasa. Cargo being unloaded into lighter. Earliest possible date of refloating 15/11, unlikely to refloat before 30/11. (C. in C., E.I. 1202Z/2)

India, M/S Construction

Your 0950/4/9. Admty. agree to Govt. of India proposals for building in India 2 "Banjoss" M/S and 10 "Bassetts" M/S. Details. (Hd. of M. to C. in C., E.I., 1727/2)

W.S. 3 C.M. 5

CARTHAGE to remain with W.S. 3 after junction of A and B groups and is to escort ERINPURA and KHEDIVE ISMAIL to Mombasa. C.M.5. escorted by COLOMBO is to rendezvous with W.S. 3 C in position C.W. 027° 50' S. 036° 10' E., at 0600Z/5. Request convoy C.M. 5 be sailed accordingly. (C. in C., E.I., 0622Z/2, to S.N.O. Simonstown, etc.) Further instructions (C. in C., E.I. 114Z/2 to DORSETSHIRE, etc., 1116/2 to Admty., 1122Z/2 to WOOLWICH, CARTHAGE, etc.)

KIMBERLEY Bombed

KIMBERLEY bombed at 0715. Four bombs no hits. Position 014° 14' N., 042° 47' E. SHOREHAM reports six bombs dropped close to Perim at 0755. Five in sea and one on land believed no damage. Times G.M.T./2. (C. in C., E.I., 0824Z/2 to Admty.)
My 0824/2. Amend para 2to read 13 bombs on or near Perim, confirmed no damage. (C. in C., E.I., 1214Z/2)

Suspicious Ship

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG made a report of a suspicious vessel in position 005° 37' N., 084° 04' E., at 1315Z/2. It is assumed this is DANAE. (C. in C., E.I. 1340Z/2)

Ship has now cancelled distress message. (C. in C., E.I., 1414Z/2, 0514/3)

MOST SECRET

2.11.1940
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

Singapore Conference — My 0313/30 and 0453/30. Comdr. Thomas U.S.N. leaves Singapore a.m./4. Documents to take with him. (C. in C., China, 0203Z/2) Your 0203Z/2. For security reasons, undesirable that Comdr. Thomas should take with him documents mentioned. (1st S.L. to C. in C., China, 0609Z/2)

Indo-China — Situation deteriorating re British interests. Suggest time has come to retaliate and stop supply of gunny bags. (C. in C., China, 0609Z/2)

C. in C., Far East — Addition to duties of new C. in C., Far East, re Ceylon air forces and G.R. Sqdns. R.A.F. in Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal. (W.O. to G.O.C's Malaya and Hong Kong, 2350/2)

America & West Indies

VAN KINSBERGEN — My 1001/29. To leave patrol after sunset 2/11 for Kingston, Jamaica, await orders (C. in C., A.W.I., 1032/2)

DIOMEDE — My 1001/29. Leave patrol as necessary to fuel at Tortola a.m./4. On completion establish patrol 20 miles north westward of Sombrero Light to intercept FORT RICHEPANSE due Guadeloupe from New York about 5/11. French sloop VILLE D'YS may be met proceeding to Martinique and is not to be interfered with. SAN ADOLFO is to proceed to Bermuda on completion of fuelling. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1052/2)

Greek Shipping — Your 2005/28, Greek eastbound vessels to proceed to British port. Greek ELISAVET sailed Comox British Columbia 26/10 for Yokohama returned Esquimalt British Columbia 1/11. Request instructions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1154/2)

/BRAS-D'OR.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

BRAS-D'OR Lost

H.M.C.S. BRAS-D'OR not reported since 19/10 and now presumed lost in recent gales (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1221/2)

QUEEN ELIZABETH

Date of leaving New York. (d. of S.T., 1311/2)

Shipping Route

Your 1902/31. Cancel my 1508/14/9. to N.C.S.O Trinidad. Shipping from Caribbean Sea to Gibraltar should be routed so as to pass within 100 miles N. of Madeira and thence direct to Gibraltar. (D.T.D. to C. in C., A.W.I., 1225/2)

Australia

BULYSSES

Re India's 1115/31 respecting Fremantle bunkering earliest available tanker BULYSSES due 19/11. Can programme be adjusted to this position or alternatively R.F.A. KURUMBA be made available.
(D. of S.T., 1625/2 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

HELGOLAND

My 2345/28 Barranquilla passes local press report that pilot of Colombian military plane believed identified HELGOLAND near Boca Chica Cartagena 31/10 but Colombian destroyer CALDAS sent to investigate found no trace. (ends) Cartegena instructed to investigate.
Investigator employed by R.O. Barranquilla believes ship will hide some distance off Goajira being joined by Germans collected at Valledupar including aviators. Comment. Earlier rumours that Scadta employees sailed in the ship were denied by Colombian Authorities Barranquilla. (S.O.I., Kingston 0058/2)
My 0058/2. Cartagena states no truth in local press report re HELGOLAND. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1515/2)

SCHARNHORST

At Kobe. Broadcasts from Japan and Manila on 30/10 included a report that ship was armed and ready for sea. Singapore reports no previous information that ship was armed. (D.S. 425)

SESOSTRIS

My 2301/31. R.O. Puerto Cabello reports no sign of any activities. (S.O.I. Kingston, 0912/2)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

SOULIOTIS (stopped 22/10)

Greek, SOULIOTIS reports stopping by Italian U-Boat at noon on 22/10 in approx. position 034° 00' N., 030° 30' W. Mate who boarded submarine saw no name or number but believes 2 officers German. Description. (C. in C., A.W.I., 0923/2 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported

1133 — 56.12 N., 10.12 W., (C. in C., W.A. 1343/2)

1524 — 58° to 60° N., 18° to 20° W., position indefinite (D.S. 425)

1109 — 59° to 60° N., 18° to 20° W., position indefinite (D.S. 424)

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions

Italian: No news.

German : 1 probably proceeding northwards may now be W. of Valencia. Probably 4 in N.W. Approaches and farther W., of which 1 was in area 58° to 60° N., 18° to 20° at 1109/2. No recent news of others.
1 more may possibly be S. of Iceland between 60° and 62° N.
Possibly 1 in northern North Sea homeward bound. (D.D.I.C. 1234/2)

Submarines Attacked

U-Boat Sunk by ANTELOPE

Am attacking firm contact. ACHATES assisting. My position 056° 12' N., 010° 12' W. ANTELOPE, 1133/2)

My 1133. Contact certain U-Boat. After second attack regained contact U-Boat used high speed and passed under me. (corrupt group) effective, have lost contact, searching. ACHATES asdic set broken so have told her to rejoin convoy. Request air co-operation. (ANTELOPE, 1255/2)

ANTELOPE's 1255. Am proceeding to join hunt. Expect to arrive 2000. (WANDERER, 1420/2)

/U-Boat.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

2.11.1940
Saturday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Attacked.

U-Boat Sunk by ANTELOPE-Contd.

U-Boat Italian sunk, most of crew rescued. Foremost Boiler Room damaged, oil fuel tank flooded in trying to board U-Boat. Am returning to Clyde. (ANTELOPE, 1515/2)

U-Boat Sunk. (ANTELOPE, 1518/2 to WANDERER)

Your 1518 and my 1420. Can I be of assistance in taking survivors into Londonderry. My position course and speed. (WANDERER 1540/2, to ANTELOPE)

Your 1540. No. Must return owing to damage. (ANTELOPE, 1610/2)

Well done ANTELOPE. (C. in C., W.A., 1553/2)

Position was near track of H.X. 82 Convoy in which MANCHESTER EXPORTER and CITY OF BARCELONA have particularly important cargoes. (D.S. 425)

My 1343. This U-Boat has now been sunk by ANTELOPE. (C. in C., W.A., 1601/2 to W. App. Command)

My 1515 U-Boat was German probably U.31 operating from Lorient. (ANTELOPE, 1705/2 to C. in C., W.A.)

40

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

U-Boat Campaign

A.M.C's LAURENTIC and PATROCLUS were torpedoed about 145 and 160 miles west of Ireland respectively, between 2200 and 2300 today, and sank later.
SS CASANARE was torpedoed in the same area earlier in the evening.

British Air Activity

Owing to adverse weather conditions all operations last night were cancelled.

Weather conditions today also forced most aircraft of Bomber Command to abandon their tasks.

Patrols in the southern North Sea and Channel were also abandoned.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

WINDSOR CASTLE (19141 tons) was bombed and machine-gunned this morning, about 180 miles W.S.W. of Bloody Foreland. Little damage is reported, but the ship is said to have U.X.B's lodged on board. BULLDOG was sent to escort her to the Clyde.

Convoy W.N. 29 was attacked off Rattray Head this evening. EROS was damaged and taken in tow by CHALLENGER to Aberdeen. KILDALE (3877 tons) was also hit and sank later.

It is reported that SS VICTORIA (Greek 4202 tons) was bombed and sunk about 100 miles N.W. of Ireland at 0630/30/10.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night is suspected in the Thames Estuary.

A.P. Vessel GEORGE AND ANNIE was mined and sunk off Hartlepool this morning, whilst engaged in sweeping.

Belgian Trawler 293
and motor boat LADY DRUSIE were mined in Milford Haven approach channel this morning.

Belfast is closed.

Port Talbot remains closed. Other Bristol Channel ports are to be opened this morning.

Mines were found today in Milford Haven, Firth of Forth, Tyne, off Hartlepool, Harwich, in Inverness Firth Approaches.

Mines exploded close to VIMIERA N.E. of the Swin and near R.A.F. H.S.L. 112 off Yarmouth.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

MILAN (light cruiser) passed Gibraltar westbound this morning. Sloop
LA BATAILLEUSE escorting 4 French submarines and 2 French M.V's passed Gibraltar at 1700 today, eastbound.

North Atlantic

SHEFFIELD left patrol off the Azores at midnight 3/4 Nov. to return to Gibraltar.

An Italian U-Boat was apparently chased by our destroyers into Tangier at 1750 where the U-Boat secured alongside.

A patrol is being established. Consul General Tangier reports that its batteries are run down and are being charged. The duration of stay is not known.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Italian W/T communique states that two of their submarines are overdue.

East Indies

Three attacks were made today by Blenheims on underground oil tanks at Assab. All bombs fell in the Target area.

America & West Indies

U.S.Destroyers are patrolling off French West Indian ports to keep in touch with French cruiser JEANNE D'ARC.

MOST SECRET.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Deluge. At 0200/3 (D.C.0207/3) At 1400/3 (D.C. 1418/3).

Nore. Ships not required for duty today revert to 4 hours' notice until 2000. There will be no destroyer patrol tonight. (C.in C. Nore 0939/3).

Rosyth Defence. The value of Rosyth as a Fleet Base is being much prejudiced by enemy mine-laying in the searched channel. The absence of any long range A.A. gun defences covering the area to the East-eard of Inchkeith enables the enemy to carry out this work with impunity in that most vital part of the channel close to Inchkeith. Four mines have been exploded within four miles of Inchkeith within the last three days, one of which damaged BLACK SWAN. Reques that the question of mounting long range A.A. guns to cover the searched channel to the Eastward of Inchkeith be taken up as a matter of urgency. (C.in C. H.F. 1027/3).

C.in C. Rosyth to make detailed recommendations in consultation with 3 A.A. Division, in case guns can be made available. (V.C.N.S. 1846/3).

Movements.

CANITO. Orders. (F.O.C. N.P 0940/3).

ARGUS. Left Glasgow for Tail of Bank. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1215/3).
Intend putting ARGUS at 8 hours' notice for three days to make good defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1802/3).

Dover. Patrols night 3/4 November. (V.A. Dover 1241/3).

BATH. Your 0941, BATH again delayed due to port being closed. (C.in C. W.A. 1243/3).

MOST SECRET.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (Contd.)

CAIRO. — On parting company with W.S.4A cover PATROCLUS and LAURENTIC during your return to Clyde. Estimated positions. (C.in C. W.A. 1301/3 to CAIRO).

Orkneys. — Movements tonight. (A.C.O.S.1531/3).

Portsmouth. — Night Movements. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1603/3).

FLEUR DE LYS. — Proceeding at maximum speed of 3 knots towards Campbeltown to execute repairs. I.P. Crank bearings wiped. Position. (FLEUR DE LYS 1632/3).

FORMIDABLE. — My 1258/3. Request you will arrange A/S escort, asking C.in C. H.F. for assistance if necessary. (D.O.D.(H) 1657/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

Submarines.

TITANIA. — To proceed to Holy Loch after transfer Submarines to 5th and 6th Flotillas in accordance with my 1829/1 has been affected. (V.A.S. 1012/3).

TRIDENT. — Movements. (Capt: (S) 2 1434/3 to Submarines on patrol in Area B, negative Portsmouth area).

Positions and Movements. — 0700/4 (V.A.(S) 1702/3, 1916/3).

My 1829/1. In view of the fact that Submarines of the 5th Flotilla will be operating, some in the Portsmouth command and some in the Western Approaches command, it is proposed in order to simplify operational control that this should be exercised by V.A.S. through Captain S.5 in a similar manner as is done by V.A.S. in the case of other submarine flotillas. (V.A.(S) 1013/3 to C.in C. Portsmouth, C.in C. W.A.)

Your 1013/3 concur. (C.in C.W.A.1321/3)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Submarines. (Contd).

Harwich Submarine Base.

Submarine Base at Harwich to be closed a.m./5. The submarine Base is being kept at one weeks notice in case of return of submarines.
(C.in C. Nore 1146/3).

Submarines to be informed when our own aircraft are going to bomb French or Dutch ports.

My 1126/10. In future this information will not normally be passed to submarines.
(V.A.(S) 1136/3).

British Air Activity.

Air Reconnaissance.

No air reconnaissance possible on night 2nd to 3rd November.
(C.in C. Nore 0551/3).

FORMIDABLE.

It is requested that Fighter protection may be given to FORMIDABLE whilst carrying out trials in the Northern half of the Irish Sea as far South as 53° 30'N. from approximately 21st. to 25th November.

C.in C. to arrange the necessary details when they are finally decided.
(D.O.D.(H) 1258/3 to Air Ministry).

Patrol.

A patrol to be known as A.N.S 1 will be flown a.m. daily by 3 Ansons from Thornaby within the limits 54N and 56 N and as far east as 4° . Aircraft will fly at visibility distance on parallel tracks of 090 degrees, returning on reciprocal: object to give pilots navigational experience and to locate enemy shipping.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2032/3).

Enemy Air Activity.

S.S. STARSTONE (bombed 31/10)

CAPE ARGONA arrive Belfast. STARSTONE not met. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 0500/3).

MOST SECRET.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

AAAA 5412 N 1318 W. WINDSOR CASTLE again attacked.
Malin Head Radio 1102/3).

AAAA WINDSOR CASTLE still bombed and damaged aeroplane still attacking.
(Base Ship Scapa T.O.R. 1142/3).

312. Detach one destroyer to assist WINDSOR CASTLE reported damaged by bomb position 54° 12'N., 13° 18'W at 1140 course 070.
(C.in C. W.A. 1151/3 to CORNWALL).

Have sent two destroyers to WINDSOR CASTLE. (CORNWALL 1155/3).

Proceed with all despatch to assistance of WINDSOR CASTLE in position 54° 12'N 13° 18'W at 1142 today. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1157/3 to MARAUDER).

My 1155A; destroyers GARLAND and BULLDOG.
(CORNWALL 1225A/3).

GARLAND is to comply with my 1253.
BULLDOG is to escort WINDSOR CASTLE to Cumbrae and then proceed to Liverpool.
(C.in C. W.A. 1753/3 to GARLAND, BULLDO

Position WINDSOR CASTLE at 1615 today 054° 48'N., 011° 57'W course 075° speed 15 knots. Make contact and stand by should further assistance be required.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1803/3 to DILIGENT, MARAUDER).

Report of N/502.
Close A/S patrol carried out from Pos. NLDE 1507 to NLDE 4435 no enemy forces sighted.
Sighted at 1510 hrs. MV - WINDSOR CASTLE pos. NLDE 1507 course 075 - 15 kts. - she was not badly damaged by bombing attack of CONDOR but was carryi five unexploded bombs and requested surface escort.
A/C received signal from base at 175 as follows:-

/Met

MOST SECRET.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

WINDSOR CASTLE. (Contd.)

Met NLSB 4803 075, 15 kts. unexploded bombs on board surface escort required little damage no killed T.O.O.1615. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth 1920).

My 1753 position of GFMS (WINDSOR CASTLE) at 1615 course 075° speed 15 knots. 54° 48'N., 11° 57'W. (C.in C. W.A. 1921/3 to BULLDOG).

Please repeat your 1255. My position 054° 35' N., 010° W. BULLDOG and GARLAND not met WINDSOR CASTLE. (GARLAND 2000/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

Iceland.

Enemy air activity over Iceland has increased recently. Three aircraft visited East coast 28/10 and Heinkell III visited Reykjavik early this morning presumably photographic reconnaissance. This machine passed over Kaldadarnes aerodrome made one circuit at 6,000 feet and reasonable assume whereabouts of this aerodrome now known to enemy. Am also investigating presence of what appears to be German rubber dinghy from aircraft 30 miles East of Vik on South coast. If air activity continues increase hope some Fighter Gladiator or Gauntlet plus one could be made available at short notice. Provision of some Bofors anti-aircraft guns would greatly increase protection of aerodrome which is very weak at present. (Alabaster, Reykjavik 1212/3).

NORTHERN SPRAY.

Help Kinnaird Head. (NORTHERN SPRAY 1832/3).

S.O.S.

The following has been read. Help 045° Rattray 10 miles, my course 225° speed 6 knots. (Pentland Firth 1920/3).

EROS KILDALE.

Standing by S.S. EROS 057° 48'N., 001° 54'W recovering boat with survivors investigating condition of ship. (CHALLENGER 1955/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

EROS.
KILDALE.

ϕ
My 1955/3. Survivors recovered. One wounded 2 believed missing. Am attempting to tow southwards request salvage tug(s) take over if available. (CHALLENGER 2044/3).

ϕ
Your 2350/3 (no trace) ABEILLE 4 at sea in your vicinity. SABINE (tug) en route Peterhead to Methil ordered to return. KILDALE has also been bombed and it is hoped to salvage both ships. (C.in C. Rosyth 0032/4 to CHALLENGER).

My 0032/4. Believed ABEILLE 4 is now with KILDALE but has been ordered to proceed to assist you if no chance of salvage. (C.in C. Rosyth 0054/4 to CHALLENGER).

Bristol Channel.

*
My 2350 (no trace). My position, course and speed 057° 45'N., 001° 52' W., 140° 4 knots. S.S. EROS in tow. Request air escort at dawn. (CHALLENGER 0055/4 to C.in C. Rosyth).

Arriving Aberdeen 0815 to deliver EROS local Tug for berthing. Intend continuing voyage to Methil on completion. (CHALLENGER 0742/4).

Convoy W.N.29 was attacked by A/C about 1930/11 in position 026° Rattray Head 7 miles. Steamers EROS and KILDALE both damaged and abandoned. EROS taken in tow by CHALLENGER for Aberdeen and Tug ABEILLE IV is searching for KILDAGE whose survivors are on board PENTLAND FIRTH. Tug SABINE is also joining in search. Amplification follows. (C.in C. Rosyth 0753/4).

Firth of Forth.

My 0753. EROS arrived Aberdeen in two of CHALLENGER at 0815 and will proceed into harbour at 1500 today. 4 survivors of KILDALE including 1 dead landed at Peterhead by GREGORY:- (names). (C.in C. Rosyth 1015/4).

Following two survivors from S.S. KILDALE bombed and believed sunk at 1920/3 off Rattray Head have been landed at Methil. One each from S.S. MURRAYFIELD and S.S. FLUOR. 3 more survivors are believed to be in S.S. GLEN MAROON due Methil shortly. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1524/4).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

EROS.
KILDALE.

S.S. KILDALE has apparently sunk in approx. position Rattray Head 025° 7 miles R.A.F. machines have searched the vicinity.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1725/4).

My 1015/4. 27 survivors of S.S. KILDALE brought to Granton by S.S. PENTLAND FIRTH at 1400/4. 10 men missing including one naval gunner; 2 military gunners are safe. KILDALE hit by one - probably two - bombs. Engine room filling rapidly when ship abandoned.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2205/4).

Mining.

Bristol Channel.

Ports will be open at the following times:

Avonmouth	0900.
Newport	0900.
Cardiff	0900.
Barry	1000.
Swansea	0730.

Port Talbot, remains closed.

(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0703/3).

BATH.

R.V. with R.A.M.L. as early as possible after daylight. My position, course, speed 0800/4 (R.A.M.L.0941/3 to BATH) BATH again delayed due to port being closed (C.in C. W.A. 1243/3).

Firth of Forth.

One blue mine. (C.in C. Rosyth 1125/3).

Tyne.

2 ground magnetic mines detonated.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1205/3).

Harwich.

Asking for fighter protection for 6 fleet minesweepers 4/11. 51° 58'N to 52° 10.5'N., 0830 to 1730.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1618/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Belgian Trawler 293.

Mined 262° 4¼ cables from No.4 Buoy. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1214/3).

LADY DRUSIE.

Motor Boat mined in Milford Haven Approach Channel this morning. (D.S.426).

P. M/S LORNA DOONE reports having swept up and sunk a black object approximately 5 feet long 2 feet in diameter. One end pointed the other rounded, this object floated high in the water and sank end first. Position 52° 01'N., 01° 47'E on 2. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1657/3).

Invergordon.

One red magnetic mine detonated by L.L. sweepers Inverness Firth Approaches. (F.O.I.C. Invergordon 1735/3).

VIMIERA.

Mine exploded 20 yards astern of me in position 150° North East SWIN 100 yards. No damage. Speed was 12 knots. (VIMIERA 1014/3).

GEORGE and ANNIE.

M/V GEORGE and ANNIE while carrying out Spar Sweep was blown up at 1123/3 in position 150° ½ mile Heugh P.W.S.S. Regret no survivors. Lt.Cdr. Houghton R.N.V.R. in charge. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1206/3).

Hartlepool.

Mine exploded spontaneously at 1143/3 in approx. 54° 40' 09'' N., 01° 07' 24''W. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1225/3).

Milford Haven.

Three ground mines self-detonated. Positions. Mines detonated between 2140 and 2240 2/11. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1830/3).

Belfast.

Port of Belfast is closed due to suspected minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1845/3).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Yarmouth.

Ref. F.O.I.C. Yarmouth's 1550/27 and 1715/27. Description of mine. Great reliability cannot be placed on Cobbers report of positions. Ends. (C.in C. Nore 1919/3).

Operation B.S.45.

ICARUS and IMPULSIVE are to act as escort. (C.in C. Nore 2306/3).

Enemy Intelligence.

Report received graded B.3. that 5 modern German destroyers arrived Oslo on 2/11 and berthed at Piperviken. (D.D.I.C. 0003/3).

OLYMPIA.

H.M.T. OLYMPIA and Norwegian destroyers SLEIPNER in collision Leith Roads 1050/2. No serious damage to OLYMPIA. (N.O.i/c Leith 1807/3).

MAIA STELLA.

Belgian Trawler MAIA STELLA broke adrift while in tow of LORD STANHOPE at 1600/2 and grounded at Robin Hood Bove. Total loss. Board of enquiry is being held at 1 00 tomorrow Monday. 0940/3. Ends. (C.in C. N.A. 1464/3, 1852/3).

FLEUR DE LYS.

I.F. Trunk Bearings wiped. Proceeding at maximum speed of 3 knots towards Campbeltown to execute repairs. Position. (FLEUR DE LYS 1652/3).

My 0949/3. Position now given by master is 35 miles N.N.W. of Kinnaird Head altered on fix at 2100/30. Cause of explosion unascertained but torpedo or bombing improbable. Degaussing had failed the night before. Weather heavy N.E. Gale. Survivors boat was picked up close to mine barrier. (A.C.O.S. 1947/3 to C.in C. H.F.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

ROSEMONDE.

L.L. Trawler ROSEMONDE sustained damage in collision with trawler SORANUS and will be delayed five days.
(F.O. Humber 1237/3).

LORD COLLINGWOOD.

Enquiries have been made of all the naval ports between The Nore and Invergordon for drifter LORD COLLINGWOOD and no trace found. She is reported to have sailed from Thames in F N 16 for Methil for onward routeing to Greenock on 23/10.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1303/3).

46. Request report if anything has been seen of Drifter LORD COLLINGWOOD which sailed with F.N.16 on October 23rd.
(C.in C. Nore 2035/3 to F.O's i/c Humber, Harwich, Yarmouth. N.O's i/c Brightlingsea, Lowestoft, Grimsby.

OLYMPIA.

H.M.T. OLYMPIA and Norwegian destroyers SLEIPNER in collision Leiths Roads 1930/2. No serious damage to OLYMPIA.
(N.O.i/c Leith 1307/3).

MARIA STELLA.

Begins: Belgian Trawler MARIA STELLA broke adrift while in tow of LORD STANHOPE at 1600/2 and grounded at Robin Hood Cove. Total loss. Board of enquiry is being held at 1 00 tomorrow Monday. 0940/3. Ends.
(C.in C. W.A. 1444/3, 1832/3).

FLEUR DE LYS.

I.P. Crank Bearings wiped. Proceeding at maximum speed of 3 knots towards Campbeltown to execute repairs.
Position. (FLEUR DE LYS 1632/3).

My 2349/3. Position now given by master is 35 miles N.N.W. of Kinnaird Head altered on fix at 2100/30. Cause of explosion unascertained but torpedo or bombing improbable. Degaussing had failed the night before. Weather heavy S.E. Gale. Survivors boat was picked up close to mine barrier.
(A.C.O.S. 1947/4 to C.in C. H.F.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

CONVOYS.

S.C.9. GIBRALTAR to join. Route. (C.in C. W.A. 0907/3). OTTAWA, HURRICANE HARVESTER, HESPERUS, GARLAND, to meet (C.in C. W.A. 1253/3). 1439/3.

H.G.46. CAMITO to R.V. with (date) (F.O.C.N.P. 0940/3).

S.L.54. ESPERANCE BAY to act as ocean escort. (C.in C. S.A. 1159N/3).

H.X.83. BEAGLE, BULLDOG, SAGUENAY and SKEENA to meet. (C.in C. W.A. 1253/3). meet. Details. (C.in C. W.A. 1355/3).

O.B.238. Cancel my 1651/2. GIMBRA and FLORIAN did not sail (N.C.S.O. Oban 1305/3).

H.X.82B. DERBY COUNTY to R.V. (C.in C. W.A. 1307 /3).

B.H.X.86. Left, ocean escort MONTCLARE, returning to Halifax. (N.O.I.C. Bermuda, 1243/3).

Troop Convoys.
W.S.4A. To keep clear of H.X.83, to alter course at 1600/3. (C.in C. W.A. 1033/3).

" DELIUS. Speed of advance 11 knots. Lame duck DELIUS. (CORNWALL, 1230A/3). Propose DELIUS proceed unescorted from dark tomorrow if risk to personnel and stores can be accepted. (C.in C. W.A. 1803/3). Destroyers detailed to assist CASANARE and LAURENTIC. (see U/Boat Campaign).

W.S.4B. Dates and details of stores. (D.S.T. 2335/3).

Barry Roads. Your 1909/2, use of Barry Roads for convoy assembly. This could be accepted as temporary measure but is not considered advisable. (N.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1226/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

WAR DIARY.

MOST SECRET.

3.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Arrivals in Dark Hours.

My 1340/29. By crossing meridian of 10° West at 0600 vessels will frequently arrive at destinations in dark hours unless speed is reduced. To avoid such reduction of speed it is proposed to allow vessels concerned to enter Clyde, Belfast and Liverpool during dark hours, F.O.s. I.C. concerned being notified of times of arrival in sufficient time to warn local patrols and Examination Service. Request your concurrence. (D.T.D. 1904/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

JEAN BART RICHELIEU	Instructions if they attempt to proceed into Mediterranean or German occupied ports. (A.C.N.S.(F) to F.O.C. N.A., 0404/3, and reply of F.O.C. N.A. 1210/3) See Operations Vol.
MILAN	Gibraltar 0830/3. French light cruiser MILAN returned westbound. (S.O.I., Gib., 1253/3).
CUBA Interception	Your 1315/2. ROYAL SOVEREIGN may be used toprovide support if considered necessary, there being no immediate urgency for her arrival at Gibraltar. (D.O.D.(F) 1346/3 to C.in C. S.A.)
CUBA interception	Admty. 1346/3. MORETON BAY escorting French ship CUBA with 1216 sailors from Martinique on board passes through (positions)about 0600/5. Ship may run out of fuel and have to be towed. Possible French forces from Dakar may attempt to interfere. DRAGON will join MORETON BAY before darkness 4/11 or at daylight 5/11. Oiler OLWEN from Freetown should pass through (position) at 0600/4 to meet MORETON BAY. Proceed Freetown at best speed, fuel and proceed to support. Possibility of submarines has to be considered. (C.in C. S.A., 1831/3, to ROYAL SOVEREIGN).
Libreville.	Report of interview with Leclerc. De Gaulle's decision re attack. (C.S.1 2017 A/3) See Operations Vol.
Food Supplies.	Your tel. 26/10 to C.in C. S.A. Decision has been given that all food supplies now in BELGRAVIA are to be delivered free of all charges to Free French Cameroons at Manoka Anchorage. BELGRAVIA will arrive Manoka Anchorage about (date). She cannot reach Duala. Request Leclerc may be asked to arrange for ship to be unloaded as rapidly as possible. (C.in C. S.A., 2023/3 to Govr., Nigeria).

/ Zacuke .....

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Italian S/M at Tangier. — See U/Boat Campaign, S/M's Reported.

URSULA — Not to be sailed until further notice. (D.O.D. (F) to F.O.C. N.A. 0345/3).

SHEFFIELD. — Fuel permits further 24 hours patrol arriving Gib. with 18% a.m. 7/11. Intend to leave at 0001/4 unless further orders. (SHEFFIELD, 1244/3).

Explosive Machine. — My 1020/1. Divers continue to recover portions of a machine from northern entrance. Description. (F.O.C.N.A. 1942/3).

South Atlantic.

DRAGON — Sailed 1200/3 from Freetown, to R.V. with MORETON BAY. (C.in C. S.A., 1037/3, S.O.I., Freetown, 1445 N/3).

HOUDUCE — To return to Duala forthwith, ascertaining on passage if Corsico Island buoy is still burning. (F.O.I.C.S. to DEVONSHIRE, 1617/3)

TURCOMAN — Left base buoy for position B at 1000/3 with instructions to close position B at every even hour until contact is made with DELHI. (C.S.1, 2227 A/3, to DELHI).

Mediterranean.

Alexandria. — Important units arrive 0715 and 0745/3. (R.A. Alexandria, 0050/3, to OSIRIS).

ILLUSTRIOUS — C.in C. H.F.'s No. 1429 H.F. of 1526/29/10. Brief report on fighter communication during 2 months' operating in Mediterranean, in which 13 enemy a/c (certain), either shadowing or attacking Fleet, have been shot down by Fulmars, 10 of which were destroyed as a result of directions by ships. (ILLUSTRIOUS, 1145/3, to Admty.)

Enemy Morale. — Following from N.A. Stoc'kholm: Italian just returned from Naval circles Rome has confided to Swedish Officer depressing effect on morale of Italian Navy due to
(a) Their inability to prevent British convoys traversing Mediterranean and still more
(b) Innumerable British fleets said to have entered Malta with bands playing and then refuelled without Italian hindrance. (B.3) (D.N.I., 1257/3 to C. in C. Med.).

/ Taranto .....

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Taranto. — Reconnaissance not carried out today. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1359/3).

Malta, A/C. — Situation Report to 1700/3 G.M.T. No military or naval items. No enemy air activity over Malta today. (H.Q. Malta, 1700/3).

Operations. Names. — Your 1526/2. Para. 1 and 2, Concur. Para. 3, consider risk of using Skerki Channel is not justifiable. (C.in C. Med., 1753/3 to Force H).

Reinforcements. — Your 1240/2, suggesting BARHAM vice BERWICK in charge. Do not think the question of seniority can be waived. (C.in C. Med., 1807/3, to S.O. Force H.)

Operation B.S. — Bring into force condition B. (Capt. S.1 to S/M's on Patrol, 1935/3).

Convoys. — Re publicity. (C.in C. M.E., to W.O., 1950/3).

NAVAL. — French s/m, returned 3/11, sea water in one battery. It appears probable that slow convoys from Tripoli (Africa) to West Sicily keep close to shoal eastward of Kerkenah Island. (V.A. Malta, 2005/3).

Assistance to Greece.

Suda Bay, Landing, Air Raids. — My 2201/1. Initial action at Suda Bay completed. Details of guns landed, nets laid by PROTECTOR, etc. One battalion disembarked from AJAX on 1/11. Heavy air raid by 25 aircraft on Suda Bay and Canea during disembarkation, little damage and few casualties. Further raids by 5 aircraft, a.m./2, diverted by gunfire of AJAX and bombed Canea. WRYNECK, FAREHAM and oiler OLNA sailed for Piraeus, remainder for Alexandria. Plans for aerodrome, A/A guns. (C.in C. Med., 0215/3).

Cable. — Eastern Tel. Co. now report cable between Alexandria and Salonika O.K. (C.O.I.S., Alexandria, 1825/3).

Small Craft. — Ref. Admty. 727 to C.in C. Request D.S.T.O. send information concerning rates and terms. As Col. Johnson and Lieut. Cdr. Ryder are coming, no officer from Admiralty will be necessary, especially as little material can be sent from Alexandria.
With minimum speed seven knots doubtful if can obtain more than 20 of which many will be yachts. (N.A. Athens, 2053/3, to C.in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Aden Defences. — Urging reinforcement of Air and A/A defences at earliest possible date. Proposals. (S.N.O. Red Sea, 1712/30/10, received 0145/4/11) Fully endorse S.N.O. Red Sea appreciation in his 1712/30. (C.in C. E.I., 1950 Z/3).

MAURETANIA. — Your 0702/1. No objection to use of accommodation for private passengers at usual rates. (D.S.T. 2015/3, to S.T.O. Colombo).

China.

Singapore Conference. — My 0203/2 and your 1940/2. N.A. Washington informs me that Admiral Stark anticipates Admiral Hart will wish to send his Chief of Staff back to Singapore with Thomas. Have been asked to arrange transport and have done so. (C.in C. China, 0403Z/3 to Admty.)

My 1427Z/3rd. Commander Misden left for Manila 0235 G M/4 with Commander Thomas. He has taken with him documents referred to in my 0203Z/2 and S.P's referred to in your 1540/1. He has been authorised to supply any information desired but not to commit H.M.G. in any way.
(C.in C. China, 1941Z/3 to Admty.)

C.in C. Far East. — Admty. 2329/19. Amendment to directive to C.in C. Far East, re operational control and general direction of training of British Air forces in Ceylon, etc. (1 S.L., to C.in C. China, 1957/3).

Australia.

MAURETANIA — Your 0702 Z/1. Ports of call Fremantle and Melbourne where fitting out will take place. (A.C.N.B., to P.S.T.O. Colombo, 0231 Z/3).

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

EISENACH — Panama reports NOSADY MARU took orders to German ship EISENACH and Italian ship FELLA to proceed to sea. Both ships reported ready to sail (B.2) Former reported now has 10 days coal. Reporting Officer Port Limon investigating. Callao pass to PRINCE ROBERT.
(S.O.I., Jamaica, 1123/3).

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

FELLA — (see EISENACH, German).

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CASANARE. British, 5376 tons. Following read: SSSS 53.58 N., 14.13 W., CASANARE torpedoed. (Scapa W/T. 2055/3). Informing LAURENTIC, PATROCLUS and CAIRO (C.in C. W.A. 2105/3): Detach one destroyer to assistance of CASANARE torpedoed in (position) at 2055. (C.in C. W.A. to CORNWALL, (W.S.4A) 2117/3). Your 2117. HURRICANE sent, left 2220. (CORNWALL, 2230/3). MARAUDER and DILIGENT to proceed to assist (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2250/3 amended 0552/4) Detached W.S.4A, proceeding assistance of CASANARE and LAURENTIC. (HURRICANE, 2310/3).

H.M.S. LAURENTIC. SSSS, torpedoed, 54.09 N., 13.44 W., 2251. (LAURENTIC via Valentia Radio, 2107/3). Following read: S/M distress, 53.55 N., 14.30 W. Torpedoed engine room, all fires out. (LAURENTIC, 2225/3) Detach another destroyer to assistance of LAURENTIC torpedoed in 53.55 N., 14.30 W. at 2224. (C.in C. W.A. to CORNWALL, 2237/3). Your 2237, HESPERUS sent LAURENTIC left 2325. (CORNWALL, 2326/3).

H.M.S. PATROCLUS. Torpedoed 53.43 N., 14.41 W. (PATROCLUS, 2222/3) keep clear of 53.55 N., 14.30 W., where LAURENTIC torpedoed at 2224. (C.in C. W.A., 2245/3, to PATROCLUS, CAIRO). If not in contact proceed to assist PATROCLUS and LAURENTIC, torpedoed (position). Sunderland flying boat will be co-operating. (C.in C. W.A. 2353/3, to ACTIVE and ACHATES).

HILLFERN (torpedoed 31/10). 12 Survivors including Master and Chief Officer of HILLFERN have today been rescued from ships boat by DOUGLAS and brought to Lyness. Ship was lost in position 57° 57' N., 02° 25½' W. at 0530/31 while in Convoy. Master considers ship was torpedoed. (A.C.O.S. 2349/3).

Submarines Reported.

Tangier. Italian s/m entered Tangier Harbour 1750 today. (Gascoigne, Tangier, no T.O.O. received 2002/3).
Italian U/B seen by (?) GREYHOUND at 1750 to enter Tangier. Was previously reported by a/c in 80° Spartel steering E. Patrol being established accordingly. (F.O.C. N.A. 1836/3).
My tel. and your 1836/3. S/M apparently chased into harbour by 3 British destroyers. Reported not damaged, but batteries run down and now being charged.

/ Duration ....

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1940.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. (Continued)

Tangier. (contd.)

Duration of stay unknown. (Consul-Gen., Tangier, 2345/3).

2055.

53.58 N., 14.13 W. (D.D.I.C. 2200/3) (CASANARE torpedoed).

America and West Indies.

17/10.

Master ATHEL VIKING reports 17/10 in position 42.56 N., 40.18 W., sighted vessel speed 9 knots believed to be submarine. (S.O.I., Kingston, 1551/3).

Estimated U/B dispositions.

Italian

1 was in 34° N. 30 degs. 31' W. 1200 on 22nd October.
No subsequent news.

German

1 probably reaching N.W.Approaches from the Southward. Probably 3 in N.W. Approaches and farther west of which 1 was in area 58° to 60° N; 16° to 20° W. at 1524/2; no news of the others. 1 more may possibly be S. of Iceland between 60° and 62° N. (D.D.I.C. 1235/3).

Submarines Attacked.

By ANTELOPE. 2/10.

ANTELOPE arrived with 5 officers and 38 ratings from sunk U/B. (P.O.I.C. Greenock, 0827/3).

By ACHATES 1623/3

Your 0537 (no trace in W.R.) Two attacks in firm S/M contacts. Position 55.07 N., 14.45 W. (ACHATES, 1623/3, to C.in C.W.A.)
1 Sunderland to maintain A/S search in co-operation with ACHATES throughout night of 3-4/11. Enemy may attempt to escape on the surface during the night. A.S.V. to be used and flares used to identify any suspicious vessel or contact. (Plymouth A.C.H.Q. 1855/3). Sunderland a/c will be co-operating with you. Parachute flares will be used. Report latest position of contact and if in touch. (C.in C. W.A., to ACHATES, 1917/3) ACHATES 1623.
Unable to confirm contact, intend carrying on search until 1000/4 and then both ships to join H.X. 83. (ACTIVE, 1925/3)
Your 1917. Lost contact in 55° 08' 30" N., 15° 05' W. Sunderland a/c is already in company. (ACTIVE, 2042/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

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MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

A.M.C's on Western and Northern Patrol. Withdrawal suggested.

C. in C., Home Fleet recommends that, unless proper A/S escorts can be provided for A.M.C's in U-Boat waters, these vessels should be withdrawn from Western Patrol and Norther Patrol and replaced by pairs of A/S trawlers.

Enemy Heavy Ship off May Island.

A heavy ship with screen passed the latitude of May Island at 1845 today, course 025°.

SLEIPNER

Norwegian destroyer SLEIPNER was damaged in collision with H.M.T. OLYMPIA at Rosyth today.

S/M L. 27.

was severely damaged by an underwater collision p.m. today, while on patrol off Cherbourg. She left patrol at midnight 4/5.

British Air Activity

R.A.F. last night attacked shipyards at Kiel and targets at Naples. Channel ports were also attacked.

Certain patrols, designated S.E.C. 1 and S.E.C. 2. have been designed for the protection of convoys by aircraft fitted with special equipment.

Mining

M. A/S B 4 struck a mine this afternoon off Tobruan and sank.

Rosyth, Port Talbot and Falmouth were opened this morning and Belfast early this afternoon.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

North Atlantic

A second Italian submarine entered Tangier harbour at 1830 today and tied up alongside the submarine which entered yesterday. She was followed by two British destroyers as far as territorial waters.

Tangier

The Officer Commanding the Spanish Troops in Tangier today proclaimed himself Governor and Delegate of the High Commissioner of Spanish Morocco. He announced that the Committee of Central, the Assembly and the Mixed Bureau of Information will cease to function.

South Atlantic

N.C.S.O. Duala reports that French submarine PONCELET was bombed but not hit today.

Mediterranean

An Italian P.L. broadcast announces that waters surrounding Greek territory must be considered dangerous.

C. in C., Med. reports that two more Italian U-Boats have been destroyed. The hunt in one case was carried out in co-operation with the R.A.F.

R.A.F. bombed Naples last night.

It has been decided to give Greece the greatest possible material and moral support at the earliest possible moment. The Services Attaches at Athens report that the situation in Greece is extremely favourable for rapid action against Italy.

East Indies

LEANDER and Convoy B.N. 8 were bombed at 0640Z today in the Southern part of the Red Sea. No damage is reported. R.A.F. fighter drove off the enemy.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Use of A.M.C's

Unless we can provide proper A/S escort for them in U-Boat Waters which appears improbable, I am of opinion that A.M.C's should be withdrawn from Western Patrol and NorthernPatrol being replaced if required by pairs of A/S Trawlers using some of those A/S Trawlers now used for anti-invasion duty to make up numbers. The A.M.C's either to be used for hunting down surface raiders or as Convoy escorts in non U-Boat Waters or as troop transports. (C. in C., H.F. 1047/4 to Adty.)

Free French Warships and S/M's

W.A.Message 0824/6/9. and C. in C., Portsmouth 1617/26/10. Request confirmation of following action taken in bringing forward LE TRIOMPHANT, LA MOQUEUSE, LA CAPRICIEUSE and CHEVREUIL; and request directions for S/M's MINERVE, JUNON, SURCOUF. All manned by Free French except CHEVREUIL (C. in C., W.A. 2314/4 to Adty.)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE

At 0200/4. (D.C. 0210/4) At 1400/4 (D.C. 1417/4)

Burning Oil as Invasion Defence

Your 1625/23. Admiralty policy is to instal this defence only in places where it is known that it can be efficient with present technique, and to press on with investigations to overcome certain difficulties such as deep water ignition and behavior in tideways and improve the weapon. For the present, intention is for this policy to be continued. (V.C.N.S. 1641/4 to C. in C., Portsmouth)

Nore Command

My 1048/9/10. Ships which give Night Leave are to be at 4 hours notice for steam at 0830 (C. in C., Nore, 1907/40)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

CAIRO	Return to Clyde. (C. in C., W.A. 0003/4 to CAIRO) Propose anchor at Lanlash about midnight, returning Clyde after A/A Firing arranged for a.m./5. (CAIRO 1600/4 to A.C.W.A)
Dartmouth	Movements to Milford Haven and Bristol Channel Ports. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 1101/4)
BULLDOG	Sailed as in C. in C. W.A's 1753/3. E.T.A. Liverpool 2100/4. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1201/4 to C. in C., W.A.)
Dover	Patrols for night 4/5. (V.A.Dover 1421/4)
Orkneys	Movements for night 4/5. (A.C.O.S. 1529/4)
M.L. 135	a.m. 1121/3. Should be ready for sea on 7/11. Request information as to West Coast port to which she should be sailed. (C. in C., Portsmouth 1356/4 to C. in C., W.A.)
Portsmouth	Night Movements. (C. in C., Portsmouth 1613/4)
Rosyth	Movements for night 4/5. (C. in C., Rosyth 1626/4 and 1736/4)
EREBUS	My 1715/2. W. entrance to Tilbury Docks is now available for EREBUS when required. (F.O.I.C. London, 1737/4 to C. in C., Nore)
KENYA	Proceed independently at best speed to Clyde. (C. in C., W.A. 1757/4 to KENYA) E.T.A. Clyde 1000/5 (KENYA 2100/4 to C. in C., W.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Yarmouth Area A/P Patrols — Following alterations for winter months will operate from 7/11. (F.O.I.C. 1320/4 to Admty)

SALVIA, PEONY, GLOXINIA, HYACINTH — A.M. 1217/17. To proceed to Eastern Mediterranean and come under orders of C. in C., Mediterranean. When ready for sea, and complete with LLGear, C. in C., W.A. to sail them to arrive Gibraltar not later than 20/11. No escort likely to be available, and a close watch will therefore be necessary on Brest. (A.C.N.S.F. 1334/4

O.Patrol — Cancelled tonight owing to weather. (C. in C., Nore, 1353/4 to Adty)

Faroes — Adty. 1203/1. Vessels available for transfer of troops are 3 A/S trawlers. Request one vessel of outward escort may remain to cover disembarkation and embarkation. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1614/4 to C. in C., H.F.)

FURIOUS — Required to take Hurricanes to Takoradi, retaining 6 of 801 Squadron on board and disembarking rest of this Squadron at Hatston. Request you sail her to arrive Clyde not later than 10/11. Should be ready to sail by a.m./14. (A.C.N.S. H. 2113/4 to C. in C., H.F.)

Submarines

5th S/M Flotilla Operational control, assumed by V.A.S. — Your 1013/3. Concur. (C. in C., Portsmouth 0100/4 to V.A.S.)
My 1013/3. Intend to assume operational control of submarines of 5th Flotilla employed on patrol duties as from 0001/10. Intend that S.5 should keep submarines operating or on passage in C. in C., Portsmoath Command informed of movements of own and enemy forces that may effect them. Submarines operating or on passage in C. in C., Western Approaches Command to carry out their patrols in accordance with F.S.C. 2. (V.A.S. 1202/4)

/Brittany Coast.....

MOST SECRET

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4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Submarines-Contd.

Brittany Coast

Area between coast and following position is known to have been mined by the French over a year ago. Submarines are to patrol to seaward of line joining these points and are only to proceed inshore if ordered or when in contact with enemy:- 048° North 005° West, 047° 56' North, 004° 58' West, 047° 29' North, 004° 55' West, 047° 19' North, 004° 20' West 047° 20' North 003° 27' West 047° 37' North 003° 25' West. (Capt. S. 2. 1546/4 to TRIDENT)

Positions

For following 24 hours at 0700/5 (V.A.S. 1656/4)

STURGEON

Leave Patrol p.m./6 and return to Base by Route in P.O. 57 (Capt. S. 6. 1817/4 to STURGEON)

TAKU

At 0230/2 attacked large homeward bound tanker in 46° 54' N., 3° 50' W., Estimate 3 hits certain. (TAKU 1945/4 to V.A.S.)

Distribution of Submarines for A/S Training

Request that distribution of the 3 S/M's available for A/S Training, as result of a.m. 1143/2, may be reconsidered. Reasons. (C. in C., W.A. 1933/4 to Adty.)

British Air Activity

Air Reconnaissance

No air R/C has been made. (C. in C., Nore 0701/4 to Adty.)

Rosyth

C. in C. Rosyth's 1735/1 states that Night Artillery Zone has been temporarily re-introduced at Rosyth and lays down boundaries This is not correct. Request that terms of S.D. 158 as amended be applied. (H.Q.F.C 1130/4 to Air Ministry)

S.A. 2 and S.A. 3

S.A. 3. and two Southern tracks of S.A. 2 cancelled owing to weather. (C. in C., Rosyth 1224/4 to Adty.)

/Bombing of.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

British Air Activity-Contd.

Bombing of Coastal Batteries

Request bombing of batteries between Calais and Ambleteuse from 1930 to 2100/6 during passage of Convoy C.W. 16 through Straits of Dover. (C. in C., Nore, 1554/4 to Adty.)

Belfast. Proposed Restrictions on Aircraft

Following temporary additional restrictions proposed for Belfast Lough and Port Area
(a) No aircraft except fighters in pursuit of the enemy to fly over the specified zone at any time by night. (i.e. 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.
(b) Any aircraft which inadvertently enters this zone will be entirely responsible for establishing its friendly character to the ground defences. It will be engaged as hostile unless definitely recognised as friendly.
(c) The limits of the zone are from ground level upwards within the area mentioned above.
Request R.A.F.N.I. will provide A.M. with detailed description of area to which above restrictions should apply. Request addressees will signal concurrence or comments immediately.
S. 4496 refers.
(Air Ministry 1603/4 to Air Commands etc.,)

Kites

Air Ministry agree that Kites may be flown up to 1500 feet by ships in Convoy on passage between Pentland Firth and Rattray Head, from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise. (A.C.N.S. T. 2127/4 to C. in C., Rosyth)

Enemy Air Activity

R.A.F. Station Ford

Attacked by aircraft at 1515. 4 Civilians employed in F.A.A. Workshops killed. N.O.I.C. Ford, 1900/4 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Sheerness — Red mine detonated 230° Knob 1 (? cable) at 0300 by HERO. (Capt M/S Sheerness 0332/4 to C. in C., Nore)

B.S. 45 — Intend sail from Spurn Point at 1500/5, arriving 21 Buoy at 0815/6, thence to initial position, and return to 21 D Buoy. Laying will begin at 1015/6. (S.O.Minelayers Immingham, 0939/4 to Adty.)

Rosyth — My 1743. Both sides of Channel between 2° 52' E and West Gate Inchkeith are open at 1859/2.11. (C. in C., Rosyth, 0939/4 to Admty.)

Port Talbot — Now open (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1132/4)

Falmouth — Now open. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1152/4) Explosion occurred in 247° St. Anthony 2 cables, probably Magnetic or Acoustic Mine. Red Mine exploded 270° St. Anthony 1½ cables. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1805/4 to Admty.)

Belfast — Port Open. No traffic to move North of Swept Channel. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1220/4)

BATH — Intend sail BATH at 1700/4 (C. in C., W.A. 1437/4 to R.A.M.L.) R.A.M.L. is anxious you arrive as quickly as possible. Act accordingly. (C. in C., W.A. 1937/4 to BATH)

Dover — No routine sweeps today owing to weather. QZS 105 swept between 1 and 4 Buoys by 3 Oropesa Trawlers. One Mine detonated 8 cables 306° from No 4 Buoy. (V.A.Dover, 1502/4 to Adty.)

ATREUS — Required for service abroad. So Clyde controlled Minefields will not be laid in immediate future. (D.T.M. 1814/4 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

M.A/S.B.4 — Mined and sunk at 1615 in 165° ¾ mile from Tobruan Signal Station. Crew rescued, one slightly injured. (R.N.O. Fowey 1820/4 to F.O.I.C. Falmouth)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Brest	7 Destroyers and 3 large vessels at 0915 (H.Q.C.C. 1050/4 to Adty.)
Fair Isle	1 medium slow vessel in 178° 9 miles from Fair Isle, course 100°, speed 10 knots, at 2355/3. (A.C.O.S. 1121/4 to Adty.)
Sumburgh	1 small slow vessel in 202° 7½ miles from Sumburgh, course 204°, speed 7 knots, at 0607/4 (A.C.O.S. 1121/4 to Adty.)
Heavy Ship	A heavy ship with screen passed latitude of May Island at 1846, course 025°, speed 16 knots. exercising with searchlights and star shells between 1915 and 2000 (Capt. S. 9. 1953/4 to S/M O.23)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

CASULATIES AND DEFECTS

CHESAPEAKE — (British Tanker, 8955 tons) Ashore Scarweathe Sands. Bumbing. Require tug at once. (Burnham on Sea Radio 0319/4 to Adty.)

CITY OF DUNKIRK — (British, 5861 tons) Dur Durban 30/10 from Milford Haven. Not arrived (S.O.I.Cape Town 0915/4 to Adty.)

SLEIPNER — (Norwegian Destroyer) H.M.T. OLYMPIA collided with SLEIPNER while latter at anchor on 2/11 making deep dent in SLEIPNER's side and causing slight leaks. (C. in C., Rosyth 0942/ and 1719/4 to Adty.)

MARIS STELLA — (Belgian Trawler) Broke adrift while in tow of LORD STANHOPE at 1500/2, grounded at Robin Hood Cove, and is a total loss. (C. in C., W.A. 1116/4 to Adty.)

WALNUT — (M/S Trawler) Grounded on North Goodwin during passage of C.E. 15 Nowat Sheerness for docking and repair. Will not be ready to accompany next C.W. Convoy. (C in C., Nore, 1145/4 to C. in C., Portsmouth)

BELGIQUE — My 1802/1. Arrived Bahia Blanca 3/11. (S.O.I. Freetown 1808/4 to Adty.)

? — VIVIEN was detached on receipt of Humber Radio Signal and has picked up in position 053° 50' N., 000° 25' E., two bodies and a C.B. these are being sent into Humber in PUFFIN, no sign of other bodies. Only clue bit of wreckage floating (LONDONDERRY 1131/4)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping

Convoys	Situation at 2000/4. (C. in C., W.A., 1421/4)
O.G. 45	Not sighted. Request route from 51.00 N., 20.20 W. (SALOPIAN, 1014/4) Reply (C. in C., W.A. 1244/4) Position (GLENAFFARIC 1750/4) (C. in C., W.A., 1935/4)
S.L. 54	Left 1100/4, escort ESPERANCE BAY (S.O.I. Freetown, 1125/4)
H.X. 83	Position at 2000/4. (C. in C., W.A. to ACTIVE, ACHATES, HURRICANE, HESPERUS, 1540/4) SKEENA and SAGUENAY to join S.C. 9. at 1545/5 (C. in C., W.A., 1950/4)
S.C. 9.	7 hours late. Poistion at 0845/5 routed as in my 1439/3. Join Convoy as far to Westward as possible. (C. in C., W.A. 1420/4 to GARLAND) Sail H.M.C.S. ST LAURENT to join convoy S.C. 9. Details follow. (C. in C., W.A. 1751/4 to N.O.I.C. Greenock) Leave H.X. 83 in time to join S.C. 9 due 55° 18' N., 19° 00' W., at 1545/5 course 100°. 7 knots (Route) (C. in C., W.A. -1950/4, to SKEENA and SAGUENAY)
O.B. 239	O.B.O. 239. Only available escort Trawler has defective steering gear. Intend sailing H.M.S. CAMELLIA with O.B. 239 to R.V. off Oversay then to escort 5 ships to Clyde. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 1810/4)
F.S. 27	F.S. Convoy 27 now in 2 parts as Tyne and Tees contingents were late in joining. WESTMINSTER and QUORN with 15 ships BOOTY I (position) WALLACE and AMETHYST with 16 ships BOOTY II, 20 miles astern. (WESTMINSTER, 1201/4)
C.W. 16	Intend to sail C.W. 16 (14 cessels) from Southend at 1100/6 (time table). Escort E/ Destroyers FERNIE, BERKELEY, A/S Trawlers AGATE, DEODAR, ASH, CHESTNUT BAY M.B.B. vessels GATINAIS (S.O.) PINGOUIN RENE LE BESNARAIS FRATTON MAMMOUTH, PINTADE RAMIER. M.L's 116 (S.O) 114,118,119,120 and 171 if ready. (C. in C., Nore, 1650/4)
H.G. 46	CILICIA to R.V. (F.O.C.N.P. 1614/4)

/S.L. 53.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping

Convoys-Contd.

S.L. 53	DERBYSHIRE to R.V. (F.O.C.N.P., 1614/4)
Rescue Ships	My 1714/11/8. Hoped special vessels will shortly be available as rescue ships. Meantime rear ships of columns to be detailed (D.T.D. 2108/4)
BADOUIN etc.	My 1058/2. Intend sailing these ships today (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth, 1023/4)
EMPRESS OF AUSTRLAIA	Ready to sail. Request instructions (P.S.T.O Clyde, 1257/4)
ADDA	Route to Faroes. (C. in C., W.A. 1305/4)

Troop Convoys

W.S. 4 A. and W.S. 4 C.	Left 1/11 (Details) (D.S.T. to C. in C., Med., 2023/4) PRETORIA CASTLE to join W.S.4 A and escort slow portion to be known as W.S. 4 C. CORNWALL to continue escorting W.S.4 A to Suez. (D.O.D. (F) 1435 to C. in C., S.A.) Your 1803/3. DELIUS (came back) is to remain with convoy. (D.D.D. (F) to C. in C. W.A., 1355/4)
W.S. 4 B.	My 2335/3. Position re ships in Clyde. Date of leaving. (D.S.T., 1955/4)

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

DJENNE MASSILIA My 1522/2. Further arrivals DJENNE and MASSILIA in 55.35 N., 7.15 W. on 9/11 from Gibraltar by route as in my 1913/28 bound for Liverpool. (D.O.D. (H) 1615/4 to C.in C. W.A.) DJENNE passed Gibraltar 0900/4 (N.O.I.C. Gibraltar 1624/4) DJENNE weighed for Casablanca 1800. (Gascoigne, Tangier, 1900/4) My 2042/2. French N.A. states DJENNE will go to Casablanca to fuel after passing Gibraltar 4/11. He will inform me of sailing date from Casablanca. (N.A., Madrid, 1934/4 to Admty.)

S/M PONCELET Bombed. French S/M PONCELET bombed, no hits. Under way after first attack. Appeared to be leaving after first attack. (W.C.S.O. Duala, 1717/4)

CUBA, ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Proceed and act in accordance with my 1831/3. If any French warships close or show signs of interfering with CUBA or escort they are to be told they cannot be allowed to do so and must leave the vicinity, force being used if necessary though hope this will be avoided. Otherwise act in accordance with my No.125. French warships not to be allowed to proceed south but may go to Dakar or Casablanca. A/S trawlers SPANIARD (Senior Officer) PICT and BENGALI leave Freetown at 0500/5 and proceed for position 009° 30' N. 017° 05' N. at 9 knots, may be used as required. (C.in C. S.A., 1745 N/4 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)

North Atlantic.

ARK ROYAL. F.O.C.N.A. 2308/2. WISHART, VIDETTE sailed 0800/4. (S.O.I., Gib., 0840/4).

Operation Hats. Please consider following possibilities for Repeat Operation Hats starting 7/11 (S.O. Force H to ARK ROYAL, 1225/4) See Med. Vol.

Italian S/M at Tangier. See U-Boat Campaign, S/M's Reported.

Air Recco. Daily Summary Operations. (200 Group, 1715/4)

Unknown Warship, St.Michael's. My 1830/1. Report same source dated 1230/2, same unknown warship continues going round island St. Michael's at average distance of 15 miles. Seen proceeding south following cargo vessel coming from east. (Consul-Gen., Lisbon, 1853/4, to Admty.).

Troop Transport. Transfers of troops to take place after dark 6/11, to BARHAM, BERWICK, GLASGOW, GREYHOUND, FAULKNOR, GALLANT, GRIFFIN, FORTUNE, FURY. Not more than about 200 troops to be on deck from passing Tarifa until after dark 6/11. (S.O. Force H, to BERWICK, 2005/4).

/ Italian U/B's sunk. ...

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

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/ Italian U/B's sunk. ...

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Continued)

Italian U/B's sunk. My 2311/19. Following is being issued to Press. "2 more Italian U/Boats have been destroyed. The hunt in one case was carried out in co-operation with the R.A.F." (D.P.D. to F.O.C.N.A. 1950/4).

South Atlantic.

PRETORIA CASTLE. To escort slow ships of W.S.4A, to be known as W.S.4C. (D.O.D. (F) 1435/4).

CORNWALL. To continue escorting W.S.4A to Suez. (D.O.D.(F) 1435/4).

Overdue Ships. CITY OF DUNKIRK CITY OF DUNKIRK due Durban 30/10 from Milford Haven not arrived. (S.O.I., Capetown, 0915/4).

BELGIQUE My 1802/1. BELGIQUE arrived at Bahia Blanca 3/11. (S.O.I., Freetown, 1808/4).

ESPERANCE BAY Left 1100/4 escorting S.L. 54, thence to Greenock. (S.O.I., Freetown, 1125/4).

RESOLUTION. Your 0213/18. To be sailed for U.K. via Gibraltar when ready. (D.O.D.(F) 1519/4 to C.in C. S.A.)

WILLEM VAN DER ZAAN. Dutch M/L. Not to call at St. Vincent and Lobito. Proceed direct from Ponta Delgada to Freetown, and on passage Freetown - Capetown use Walfisch Bay as emergency port of call. (D.O.D. (F) to N.O.I.C. Londonderry 2052/4).

Freetown Dock Facilities. Suggesting R.E. dock operating officer be appointed to co-ordinate work and act for all departments. (S.O.C. West Africa to W.O., 1618/4).

Mediterranean.

Enemy Intelligence. A/C report 1 cruiser 5 merchant vessels, 39.40 N., 17.30 E., Course 220° speed 15 knots, at 1105 zone minus 2. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1047/4 to TRITON) (Capt. S.1 to TRITON, 1219/4).

Lights. Delimara and St. Elmo, to be exhibited on request. (Malta W/T, 1121/4).

Air Recco. Malta Situation Report to 1700/4. (A.H.Q. Malta, 1730/4).

TRUJILLO CARRIYA CARANZA Owners prepared to arrange for interception of JOSE TRUJILLO and CARRIYA, both in Barcelona loaded with food for Genoa. CARANZA will be treated in same way or

/ cargo ....

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

TRUJILLO CARRIYA CARANZA (contd.)	cargo discharged in Barcelona. (N.A. Madrid, 1919/4, to F.O.C.N.A.)
AJAX, SYDNEY, KINGSTON CRYSTAL	) Arrived Port Said 4/11. (S.B.N.O.) Suez Canal, 2143/4).)
Drafting, Alexandria.	Re establishing of a local drafting office at Alexandria. (C.in C. Med. 1647/4).
Bombing of Naples.	Instructions contained in A.M. Signal X.2 30/10 carried out night of 3/4 by 4 Wellingtons. 2 bombed 0.11 from 9,000 feet - 1 bombed 0.11 and railway junction from 1,500 feet. Fourth Wellington failed to locate target or suitable alternative target and returned with bombs. Naples well blacked out. Outward and return route to target was same as for previous attack. W/T silence was broken by 2 aircraft on return journey. In addition to the 4 aircraft mentioned, 3 other aircraft took off for the raid. 1 of these returned with bombs soon after taking off being unable to climb higher than 4,000 feet. The other 2 crashed soon after taking off. Cause as yet obscure. 1 Officer and three airmen killed - 1 airman seriously injured. 2 civilians were killed. Owing uncertainty cause of these accidents decided cancel departure of further aircraft. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1000/4).

Assistance to Greece.

Suda Bay.	Admty. 0137/31. Request a Captain R.N. with experience of organising a base be sent by quickest route to take charge at Suda Bay. As interim measure request Lt. Com. H.R.M. Nichols R.N., acting N.O.I.C., be granted rank of Acting Commander. (C.in C. Med. 1313/4).
Reported Naval Action off Corfu.	Re report by Mil. Attache of Naval action off Corfu. This was telegraphed 1400/3 although action stated to have taken place at a distance of 15 miles at 2000/2. Four observation posts on W. Coast of Corfu reported nothing. Report considered extremely unlikely. (N.A. Athens, 1321/4).

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Assistance to Greece.(Continued)

Operations. M.B.8. — Details of movements and operations planned, M.B.8 which includes Operation "Coat". (C.in C. Med., 1357/4) See Med. Vol.

Operation Coat. — Request you sail for operation as requisite, detaching Force F (date) to R.V. with me. Plans. (C.in C. Med., to S.O. Force H., 1335/4).

Assistance to Greece. — Decided to give Greece greatest possible material and moral support at earliest possible moment. Details - Chiefs of Staff telegram No. 23. (1 S.L. 1918/4, to C.in C. Med.) See Med. Vol.

Situation. — Situation in Greece extremely favourable for rapid action against Italians. Details. (Services Attaches, Athens, 2106/4.)

East Indies.

U.S.6. — Convoy U.S.6 arrived. (N.C.S.O. Bombay 0329 Z/4).

Enemy Aircraft. — Your 0938/24, locations of enemy aircraft. Height assumed same as during recent raid. Some check given by range at which minima occur. (S.N.O. Red Sea Force to S.O. Force H, 1244Z/25/10, received 1227/4)

LEANDER B.N.8. bombed. — LEANDER reports convoy B.N.8 bombed at 0640 Z/4. No damage reported. Position 14.25 N., 42.28 E. (C.in C. E.I., 1026/4).

Intelligence Summary No. 145 and Operational Summary for 24 hours ending 1500/4. 3 Blenheims 203 Squadron Fighter escort Convoy B.N.8 using advanced base Kamaran, 1 remaining Kamaran overnight. At 0650 position 14° 22' N. 42° 36' E. 1 S.79 attacked at 14000 feet dropping 6 bombs nearest 100 yards from convoy escort. Chased E.A. towards Yemeni Coast for 10 minutes closing from 4 miles to 75 yards. Enemy top rear engine silenced, gunner believed casualty and aircraft forced down to 50 feet last seen flying slightly west near Ras Mujamela, 14° 37' N. 42° 35' E.

/ Combat .....

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Continued)

Combat broken off when front guns jammed. One bullet in petrol tank of escort. 1 Glenn Martin French Flight Photographic and visual reconnaissance 0900 to 1145 shipping in Assab area and possible troop concentrations coastal strip Assab-Thio. (A.H.Q. Aden, 1727/4).

B.N. 8½ — HECTOR and RANCHI will form Force R for B.N.8½. After making R.V. with Force Q, HECTOR to proceed Bombay and RANCHI to Colombo (C.in C. E.I., 0610 Z/4).

China.

Greek Shipping. — Requesting position of all Greek shipping in Pacific. Urgently required by Greek Minister, Tokyo. (N.A. Tokyo, 1121/4) N.A. Tokyo's 1121/4. All available information has been passed to N.A.Tokyo. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 1031 Z/4 to Admty.)

Instructions in A.M. 2005/28 are still generally in force modified in the Pacific as follows:
Greek shipping outside Mediterranean is under control of Greek Shipping Committee in London, whose intention is rather to avoid excessive concentration of ships in Japanese waters than to veto all voyages to Japan. Orders will be given individually to any ships which they decide can proceed to destinations in Japan. Seven ships have already received such orders. Shipping will be allowed to proceed to Japan more freely when it is seen that Japanese assurances not to detain are borne out in practice. (Head of M. 1919/4 to C.in C's China, A.W.I. etc.)

French Shipping, YALOU. — Following from Mauritius censorship (begins) Cable and radio intercept indicates ship possibly YALOU leaving Haiphong not before Tuesday with cargo of cement and rice latter to be on loaded (? after calls) reunion then Tamatave possibly Majunga. Consignee finds difficulty to ensure against owners scuttling but Bank of Reunion appears to be able to through Vichy. (Ends). (Colombo 0947/4).

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

S/M Report. Panama.	Panama reports unidentified S/M reported off Cape Mala, U.S. authorities conducting search by sea and air. (S.O.I., Kingston, 0832/4).
DIOMEDE.	Your 1052/2. Tortola departure 4/11, oiler SAN ADOLF for Bermuda, DIOMEDE for patrol. (DIOMEDE, 1231/4 to C.in C. A.W.I.)
WYOMING OREGON	Admty. 1658/14/10. French ships WYOMING and OREGON sailed from New Orleans for Liverpool at 1400/1. Date of arrival (N.A., Washington, 1051/4).
CHARLES L.D.	N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1032/31. Desirable to intercept French ship CHARLES L.D. if possible and send her into British port. (D.E.W.D., to C.in C. A.W.I., 1737/4)
U.S. Destroyers.	Proposals for manning last 10. (1 S.L. to C.N.S., Ottawa, 1751/4).

Australia.

Greek Ships.	Admty. 2005/28. Greek Consul-General has received instructions that Greek ships are free to sail for China and Japan. Request confirmation (A.C.N.B., 0747/4 to Admty.)
KURUMBA	D.S.T. 1625/2, re bunkering at Fremantle. R.A.F.A. KURUMBA will be available. (A.C.N.B., 0641/4).
N.E.I. Navy.	Your 1707/24. Arrangements will be made accordingly. (A.C.N.B., Melbourne, 1328 Z/4 to Admty.)

[illegible]

[illegible] Foreign Stations, China.

[illegible] Foreign Stations, and U. Lists.

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

LAHNECK. Following received. LAYNECK passed Seskar Lt. Ho. at 7 a.m. Bessan, draft 17 ft., passengers 6, general cargo 1455 tons and 25-ton motor boat on starboard foredeck, pilot Roschdestensky. (Scapa W/T, no T.O.O. 4/11).

LAHNECK, PATAGONIA, SARDINIEN PATRIA. Evidence that larger ships are being employed in Baltic bringing timber from Russian ports to Germany. This trade has recently been confined to German ships of less than 1600 tons or to Finnish and Persian ships. (D.S. 426).

EISENACH My 1123/3. Port Limon reports no evidence confirming report. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1115/4).

CERIGO. Guayaquil reports has orders to provision and leave without papers. (S.O.I., Jamaica, 1529/4).

RIO GRANDE. 2200/31, German RIO GRANDE left Port Rio Grande. (F.O.C.N.A., 1835/4, to ships N.A. Stn.)

NORDERNEY. Para reports commenced loading 250 tons coal from AFFONSO PENNA. Presume will take more but could leave at once. 1130/4. (S.O.I., Montevideo, 1716 Z/4, S.O.I. Freetown, 1802/4).

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

FELIA. My 1123/3. Port Limon reports as evidence confirming report. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1115/4).

BURANO 1005/2. Has on board 5687 tons of fuel oil. (A.1). (Consul, Teneriffe, 1120/4).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

YALOU See Foreign Stations, China.

WYOMING, OREGON, CHARLES L.D. See Foreign Stations, and W. Indies.

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LAURENTIC (torpedoed 3/11)
PATROCLUS (torpedoed 3/11)
CASSANARE (torpedoed 3/11)

Later report from LAURENTIC gives position 54.09 N., 13.44 W. at 2251. (C.in C. W.A., 0121/4, to HESPERUS, HURRICANE, ACTIVE, ACHATES). Your 2353. Expect to arrive 0428. ACHATES in company. (ACTIVE, 0133/4, to C.in C. W.A.) Report situation (C. in C. W.A. to LAURENTIC, PATROCLUS, 0201/4). Informing KENYA to keep well to northward (C.in C. W.A. 0203/4). Third ship sank in vicinity at 0400. Am searching for S/M before picking up survivors of LAURENTIC. (ACHATES, 0504/4) See 0855/4. Search for S/M so far unsuccessful. Have found PATROCLUS crew. Both ships sunk. Key position 53.55 N., 14.40 W. Am picking up crew. (ACHATES, 0555/4) Have embarked survivors from motor boats of LAURENTIC in 53.53 N., 14.22 W. LAURENTIC has sunk. (HESPERUS, 0558/4). Officer of PATROCLUS informs me he sighted periscope about 0700. My 0504 was incorrect. Crew of PATROCLUS and LAURENTIC only been located. (ACHATES, 0855/4).
Sailed tugs THAMES and ASSURANCE to assistance of LAURENTIC in 53.55 N., 14.30 W. Tugs MARAUDER and DILIGENT have been diverted to assistance of CASSANARE in 53.38 N., 14.13 W. (C.O.I.C. Greenock, 0026/4).
Continue hunt. Join H.X. 83 by dark tonight Monday, (C.in C. W.A. 1527/4 to ACTIVE, ACHATES, HESPERUS, etc.) Your 1455/4 and my 1527/4. Circumstances permitting you will be detached to return to harbour at daylight tomorrow. (C.in C. W.A. to ACTIVE, 1657/4)

ROSINA TOPIE, escaped.

Following from Philadelphia:
Master Yugo-Slavia ship ROSINA TOPIE reports having been stopped and boarded by Italian S/M 13/10 in position 032° 56' N. 027° 10' W. S/M was of usual Italian type and carried two guns. After questioning ship was allowed to proceed on voyage.
Action of Italian S/M which stopped ROSINA TOPIE would suggest that they are widely open to counter action by Q ships. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1841/4).

MEGGIE.

One lifeboat with 10 men from torpedoed Swedish vessel MEGGIE landed on North Coast this morning. (Consul, Ponta Delgada, 1551/4).

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

0700 (see ACHATES 0855/4 - Ships Attacked) Join ACHATES to hunt S/M in approx. position 53.53 N., 14.40 W. at 0700/4. (C.in C. W.A. 0951/4, to ACTIVE, HERPERUS, HURRICANE).

1100. S/M reported 57.57 N., 06.05 W. at 1100/4. (C.in C. W.A. to CLEMATIS, 1311/4). S/M sighted from shore at 1100 in 57.47 N., 06.05 W. (C.2). (A.C.O.S., 1419/4).

0333. 59° to 60° N., 19° to 21° W., position indefinite. (D.S. 426)

1600. U/B reported by a/c 57.48 N., 06.05 W. at 1600. My position 57.33 N., 06.53 W. Investigating. (CLEMATIS, 1620/4). ST. ALBANS proceeding from Port ZA to investigate. (R.A.M.L., 2222/4).

1750. Convoy O.G. 45 (position). S/M submerged in 50.52 N., 20.14 W., approx. 6 miles distant. (GLENAFFARIC, 1750/4).

1856. Attack U/B in 50.52 N. 20.14 W. at 1856 (C.in C. W.A. 1919/4 to OTTAWA, HARVESTER). My 1919. Commodore reports Convoy O.G.45 (position) at 1650 G.M.T. U/B submerged 50.52 N., 20.14 W. approx. 6 miles distant. (C.in C. W.A.1935/4 to OTTAWA). My 1919. Keep clear of U/Boat and join convoy later. (C.in C. W.A. 1943/4 to SALOPIAN)

Off Panama. See America and West Indies.

1222. 59° N. 20° W., position indefinite. (D.S. 427).

2306. 55.40 N., 15.30 W., position indefinite. (D.S. 427).

Tangier, Italian S/M's. No. 1245/4. My telegram unnumbered of 3/11 "ESPANA" this morning reports Italian S/M's stem was damaged but I do not put much reliability in this report. It may have been inserted on purpose. Am not taking any action regarding S/M vis-a-vis new Spanish Authorities here pending any instructions which you may give me. We are doing all possible to watch and report ships. (Consul-Gen., Tangier, 1310/4).

/ Captain Luizet, ...

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. (Continued)

Tangier, Italian S/Ms. (contd.)

Captain Luizet, now acting Administrator, tells me he has warned Colonel Yuste who in turn has warned Italians that submarine must leave within 24 hours, i.e. at 18 hours to-night. Italians however have asked Spaniards to secure opinion of a Spanish Naval engineer who will examine the vessel. Latter will presumably report damage, gravity of which will be in accordance with Italian requirements. Examination is to take place this evening. Luizet does not know whether vessel is genuinely damaged or not, but evidence which I have been able to collect indicates her powers of surface speed not impaired. Her faculties of submersion may, however, be affected.
(Consul, Tangier, 1700/4 to F.O. N.A.)

Tangier, 2nd Italian U/B.

My telegrams 3/11 and 4/11. A second Italian S/M entered Tangier Harbour at 1830. She is tied up alongside yesterday's. (Gascoigne, 1900/40).
Second Italian U/B of different type from that reported in my 1836/3 entered Tangier at 1805. (F.O.C.N.A. to Admty. 1918/4).
My 1900/4. Submarine which entered port this evening was followed two British destroyers but it was not going at same high surface speed as submarine of yesterday. As regards submarine which arrived yesterday new "Governor" Tangier zone tells me that local engineer who examined her today considers that damage will take two weeks to repair. This is to be confirmed by a Spanish Naval engineer. Action of British destroyer yesterday in refraining from firing on Italian submarine after latter had reached our territorial waters has been much admired by Spanish here.
(Consul-Gen., Tangier, 2230/4, to F.O.C.N.A.)

Admty. 1141/4. Details of Italian U-boat. Circumstances of visit were she was chased into Tangier Harbour by three British destroyers two of which stayed outside Tangier teeritorial waters while the third came in almost as far as our mole. (Consul-Gen., Tangier, 2235/4).

/Estimated U/B dispositions. ....

MOST SECRET.

4.11.1940.
Monday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. (Continued)

Estimated U/B dispositions.

Italian - No news.
German - 1 was in 53° 53' N. 14° 40' W. at 2322/3 and will probably move northwards.

Probably 3 in N.W. Approaches and further west, of which 1 was in area 58° to 60° N. 19° to 21° W. at 0333/4, another may possibly have been in 55° 07' N. 14° 45' W. about 1600/3, no news of the third.
1 more possibly in about 61° N. 8° W. homeward bound.
(D.D.I.C. 1242/4).

(42)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Home Fleet

The Home Fleet returned to Scapa today from Rosyth.

Harwich Submarine Base

Harwich Submarine Base was closed today.

Convoy H.X. 84 Attacked by ADMIRAL SCHEER

At 2006 today JERVIS BAY escorting H.X. 84 in mid-North Atlantic signalled that an enemy battleship (ADMIRAL SCHEER) was in sight and reports that the convoy was being attacked were received. RENOWN, BARHAM and destroyer escort were ordered to raise steam. AUSTRALIA was ordered to R.V. with F.O. 1st B.C.S. in HOOD with 2 ships of 15th C.S. and screening destroyers who proceeded to cover the approaches to Brest and Lorient against enemy's return.
5 Town class destroyers on passage to U.K. were ordered to spread to locate the SCHEER, and three which were nearest the position of attack were ordered to close Convoy H.X. 84 to rescue survivors and to attack the raider by night if opportunity offered. REVENGE was ordered to the Clyde and ROYAL SOVEREIGN to Halifax.

Enemy Air Activity

VIMIERA escorting Convoy F.N. 27 was attacked this afternoon off Whitby by an aircraft which dropped one torpedo without hitting.

Trawler CASPIAN reports damage this morning 24 miles N.W. of Hoy by a small bomb lowered by an aircraft on a long wire which parted, the bomb burst on the water.

H.M.Drifter REIDS was attacked at 1650 off Brightlingsea and had some casualties, although no damage is reported.

The Irish Mail Steamer ARDMORE was machine-gunned this morning, 5 miles north of Strumbles Head. No damage is reported.

Bombs were dropped in Portland dockyard today but no damage resulted.

MOST SECRET

5.11.1940
Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Minelaying by enemy aircraft took place off the East Coast last night.

Mines were detonated today at Sheerness, Tyne and Plymouth.

Milford Haven is open in daylight only.

North Atlantic

H.M.Govt. are pressing for the interment of the two Italian submarines in Tangier, if they have not left within 24 hours of their arrival. Both submarines are reported to be damaged. N.A.Madrid reports that the Spanish Govt. has assumed full responsibility for the strict application of international law in connection with the two submarines.

Mediterranean

Bombs were dropped in the Grand Harbour Malta today, but no damage resulted.

Enemy Air Activity against Greece increased today. Kastoria was bombed 11 times today.

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

French Warships.

My 2314/4. LA CAPRICIEUSE is manned by R.N. and CHEVREUIL by Free French. (C.in C. W.A. 1304/5 to Adty.)
C.in C. W.A. 2314/4. Entirely concur with proposals for LEOPARD. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1152/5 to Adty.)

ARISTOCRAT.

It is understood that on arrival of MORA's ISLE at Rosyth it was intended to allocate ARISTOCRAT to C.in C. Nore for Local Defence duties in the Thames Estuary. Of the 10 yachts belonging to this flotilla 5 are at present unfit for service. Remainder seriously depleted by casualties and long overdue refits. Nocturnal minelaying by enemy aircraft shows no sign of abating. Request consideration to allocation of ARISTOCRAT to Sheerness as soon as possible. (C.in C. Nore 2152/5 to Adty.)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE.

At 2330/4. (D.C. 0001/5) At 1130/5. (D.C. 1149/5).

Rosyth A/A Defences.

C.in C. H.F. 1027/3/11 and Admiralty 1846/3/11. After discussion with G.O.C. 3rd A.A. Division it has been decided that best means of covering searched channel East of Inchkeith is to replace the four guns which were removed from the site R.N.G.(8) near Kinghorn. No guns could be surrendered from sites at present occupied without prejudicing the defence of other vital points. Required therefore that four additional guns may be made available for site R.N.G.(8) near Kinghorn at the earliest possible opportunity. Essential that these guns should be fitted with apparatus for engaging unseen targets. (C.in C. Rosyth 1637/5 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

LA MALOUINE — Arrived Londonderry. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0945/5).

CHALLENGER — Propose to sail in FS. 29 for Blackwall. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1047/5 to Adty.)

JERSEY
JUPITER — On completing exercises proceed to Dartmouth. Run 2-speed Destroyer Sweep if opportunity offers. (C.in C. W.A. 1141/5 and Capt. D. 5th D.F. 1405/5) Cancel my 1200. Return to Plymouth arriving after 1700. (C.in C. W.A. 1510/5 to JERSEY, JUPITER)
ETA. Eddystone 1800 (JERSEY 1725/5 to JAGUAR)

Scapa. — Arrivals. (A.C.O.S. 1143/5 to Adty.)

LEAMINGTON, LEEDS, SHERWOOD, MONTGOMERY, CHURCHILL. — 1458/1. Expected pass through Position C about 0400/9. (F.O.C. 3rd B.S. 1156/5 to Adty.)

Nore Command. — Movements to 1200/6. (C.in C. Nore 1200/5 and 1826/5).

Western Approaches. — Situation at 2000/5. (C.in C. W.A. 1305/5).

Dover. — Patrols for Night 5/6. (V.A. Dover 1401/5).

JAGUAR
JUPITER — Proceed 1730 to join JUPITER. Both Ships patrol Eddystone to 3° West, returning Plymouth 0930/6.
(C.in C. W.A. 1622/5 to JAGUAR)

Operations.

FURIOUS. — My 2113/4. This movement is in connection with help to Greeks.
(1st. S.L. 0017/5 to C.in C. H.F.)
Your 0017/5 and 0218/5. FURIOUS has rudder defect which requires 3 days docking as stated in my 1757/14/10, and defective regulating limits her speed to about 23 knots. New valve ready at Devonport 7/11 and would take Ship's staff 60 hours to fit.
Consider both defects should be made good before sailing. FURIOUS available now. Request relief for docking and that new valve be sent by courier as soon as ready. (C.in C. H.F. 1119/5 to Adty.)
My 2113/4. Provisional stowage of Hurricanes described. FURIOUS will not

/ enter ...

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

FURIOUS (contd.)	enter Takoradi but will fly off A/C in Bay. Expected that all 34 can be flown off in less than about 6 hours. (5th S.L. 1326/5 to FURIOUS). Arrangements have been made to dock FURIOUS at Liverpool. Request you sail her as soon as possible. (D.O.D.H. 1644/5 to C.in C. H.F.)
Interception of M/V.	Air reconnaissance reports a ship similar to S.S. BUESKOL of Elling Aarsed Line of Aalsund steaming North Westward from Trondjheim. This ship is expected to call at Jan Mayern Island and FRIDTHOF NANSEN is to proceed there with despatch to intercept her. Vessel is to be captured and considered as an enemy regardless of Flag or papers. Any documents or apparatus on board are to be recovered intact. (A.C.N.S. H. 1735/5 to F.O.I.C. Iceland.)
Operation COAT	Proceed to Gibraltar with Ships in company at best possible speed. (1st S.L. 2226/5 to BERWICK).

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

ADMIRAL SCHEER.

JERVIS BAY Report — JERVIS BAY Enemy Report. Am leaving it to Adty. to divert Convoy as necessary. (C.in C. A. and W.I. 1632/5 to F.O.C. 3 B.S.)
One Enemy Battleship bearing 328 distance 12 miles course 208, position 53° N. 32° W. 15 miles. (JERVIS BAY 1706/5 to Whitehall W/T)

RANGITIKI — 52° 45' N. 32° 13' W. RANGITIKI gunned. GRAF SPEE class. (Recd. Scapa Base W/T. 2001/5)

CORNISH CITY. — 52° 50' N. 32° 15' W. CORNISH CITY shelled. (Scapa Base W/T 2005/5)
Note. This was broadcast on Home Station Waves and passed to Bermuda and Ottawa.

Convoy S.C.10. — Enemy Raider GRAF SPEE Class attacking Convoy H.X. 84 in 52° 45' N. 32° 13' W. Steer to the Southward. (V.C.N.S. 2019/5 to FOLKESTONE). My 2019/5. Correct all before one. (H.W.R.2030/5 to FOLKESTONE)

Position. — Pocket Battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER is operating in North Atlantic. Last known position 52° 50' N. 32° 15' W. at 2003/5/11. (1st S.L. 2028/5. "A" Message Home and Abroad 517.A.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. (Freetown) — ROYAL SOVEREIGN to proceed to Halifax at best possible speed, fuelling at Bermuda if time will be saved thereby. (V.C.N.S. 2125/5 to C.in C. S.A.).

RENOWN, BARHAM. — RENOWN, BARHAM, and Destroyer Escort raise steam. (V.C.N.S. 2128/5 to F.O. Force H).

Convoy S.C.10. — My 2019/5. Cancel instructions to steer to Southward. (V.C.N.S. 2132/5 to FOLKESTONE).

Attack continuing. — Received 2040 G.M.T. from s.s. SOVAC. Convoy still being leisurely attacked by Raider GRAF SPEE Class in 52° 50' N. 32° 15' W. (Portishead Radio 2140/5 to Adty.)

AUSTRALIA. — Raise steam and R/V with Battle Cruiser as ordered by F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. (C.in C. H.F. 2143/5 to AUSTRALIA)
Raider apparently GRAF SPEE Class attacking Ships one by one leisurely about us. Position I have given is same as that of CORNISH CITY. It is going on hot around us now. (SOVAC 2145/5 to Portishead Radio)

/ BEAVERFORD .....

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

ADMIRAL SCHEER. (Continued)

BEAVERFORD. BEAVERFORD shelled in 52° 26' N. 32° 34' W. (Valentia Radio 2147/5).

Town Class Destroyers. My 2028/5. Steer for Tory Island. Spread to twice visibility distance. If Battleship is located, shadow by day and attack by night. (V.C.N.S. 2219/5 to LEEDS, SHERWOOD, LEAMINGTON, MONTGOMERY, CHURCHILL).
My 2028/5. Close Convoy H.X.84 attacked by Battleship in 52° 57' N. 32° 23' W. Rescue survivors. Attack Battleship by night if opportunity occurs. (V.C.N.S. 2225/5 to LEWIS, LINCOLN, LUDLOW)

1 B.C.S. Intend pass through 58° 40' N. 7° 30' W. at 0830/6, thence through 55° N. 13° W. and South along 13° W. to 50° N. Speed 16 knots. Then to cover approach to Brest and Lorient against return of Pocket Battleship reported in 52° 45' N. 32° 13' W. at 1700/5. R/V in 57° 16' N. 9° 40' W. at 1500/6 or during daylight 7th. My Force will be addressed as Battle Cruiser Force. (F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 2230/5 to AUSTRALIA)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. If filled with fuel before leaving Freetown, proceed in accordance with Adty. 2125/5. Adty. 2028/5 refers. (C.in C. S.A. 2319/5 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN)

Submarines.

Brittany Coast. Mined Area. My 1546/4. Second position should read 47° 56' N. 5° 48' W. (Capt. S.2. 0719/5 to TRIDENT)

UNIQUE. Propose to sail P.M./6 to replace L.27 in W.2 and S.3. (S.5. 0955/5 to V.A.S.)
Approved, subject to concurrence of C.in C. Portsmouth (V.A.S. 1252/5 to S.5)
Leaves Portsmouth 1500/6 to patrol in Areas W.2. and S.3. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1657/5 to Adty.) V.A.S. 1252. Concur (C.in C. Portsmouth 1914/5 to S.5)

CLYDE
SEVERN
WHITE BEAR. My 1829/1.
(A) CLYDE SEVERN and WHITE BEAR are to be transferred to 3rd S/M Flotilla as mutually arranged by Captains S concerned, dates being reported.
(B) On arrival of TITANIA at Holy Loch S.3 is to take over from S.2, new construction submarines during their trials and working up period. (V.A.S. 1032/5).

/ TRIUMPH .....

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Submarines (Contd.)

TRIUMPH. TRIUMPH has completed working up period after long refit and is (?) thought fit for service but I do not consider she should carry out a prolonged or intensified patrol except in emergency until after arrival Malta. (V.A.S. 1248/5 to F.O.C.N.A)

S/M's for A/S training. C.in C. W.A. 1933/4 and paragraph 7 of Admiralty 1143/2. H.28 is now the only submarine ex Harwich. The additional Submarine required by C.in C. W.A. at Holyhead can be met by H.28 on completion of A.S.V. Trials in Rosyth Area in about a fortnight's time.
The question of extra Submarines for A/S training should therefore not arise until the Dunoon commitment of 2 S/Ms in 1941. (V.A.S. 1249/5 to Adty.)

Your 1933/4. Concur with proposed area off Holyhead. H. 28 from Harwich will be joining 7th S/M Flotilla in about a fortnight and will be available for A/S practices in your command.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1842/5 to C.in C. W.A.)

S/M. O.22. Passes Bell Rock 1800/5. Route. (Capt. S.9. 1417/5 to S/M's Area A).

TRIDENT) TUNA) My 1427/5. Movements. (Capt. S.2. 1504/5 to TRIDENT)

TRIUMPH) TIGRIS) Off Bishops Rock 0130/8. Movements (Capt. S.2. 1524/5 to TRIDENT)

Greenock Area. Movements (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1556/5)

Positions. For following 24 hours at 0700/6. (V.A.S. 1644/5)

USK. Movements. (Capt. S.5. 1645/5 to USK).

H.43. Exercising in Plymouth S/M Area. (C.in C. W.A. 1651/5)

L.23 L.26 L. 23 in Area B and L.26 in Scapa Flow A.M. and P.M./6. (A.C.O.S. 1725/5 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Air R/C. No Air R/C during the night. S.A.9 will be flown at 0800. (C.in C. Nore 0749/5 to V.A. Dover).

Bombing of Coastal Batteries Request Coastal Command supply A/C to bomb Batteries on 6/11 as in C.in C. Nore's 1554/4. (Air Ministry 1630/5 to Coastal Command)

Belfast Lough. Area of temporary additional restrictions on A/C is defined as follows. (R.A.F.N.I. 1700/5 to Air Ministry).

Air Escorts. For 6/11. (C.in C. Rosyth 1948/5).

A/C from FURIOUS My 2113/4. 816 and 825 Squadrons are to disembark one to Campbeltown and one to Lee-on-Solent with complete Squadron Personnel and mobile equipment. R.A.N.A.S. requested to arrange training for these Units while FURIOUS is abroad. (5th S.L. 1328/5 to FURIOUS).

Enemy Air Activity.

South Shipwash. At 0359/5, 3 A/C plotted as circling near South Shipwash. Not reported by any Ship and no Flares seen. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0417/5 to C.in C. Nore)

ARDMORE. (Irish Mail Steamer) Machine-gunned by A/C at 0630, 5 miles North of Strumbles Head. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1122/5.to Adty.)

Home Fleet. There are indications that your position was reported by Enemy A/C at 1033. (D.D.I.C. 1228/5 to C.in C. H.F.)

VIMIERA. Enemy dropped one Torpedo and disappeared Eastward. Not hit. My position 54° 30' N. 0° 30'W. (VIMIERA 1658/5 to C.in C. Rosyth).

CASPIAN. Trawler. Reports leak and damage by small Bomb from A/C 24 miles N.W. of Hoy at 1030/5. Bomb lowered on long wire which parted and Bomb burst on the water. (A.C.O.S. 1703/5 to Adty.) Details of attack (A.C.O.S. 1812/7).

REIDS. H.M. Drifter. Attacked by A/C at 1650/5. 3 seriously injured, 1 slightly, landed at 2205. (N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea 2331/5 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Sheerness. Mine detonated at 01000 in 305° 3 cables from East Tongue Buoy. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0245/5 to C.in C. Nore).

Milford Haven. Port closed. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0701/5) Port open by Channel QZS. 183 in daylight only, subject to local restrictions. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0958/5 to Adty.)

Thurlestone. German Mine washed ashore on 31/10 at Thurlestone, South Devon. Request its removal. (Ince 1035/5 to Adty.)

Tyne. One Ground Magnetic Mine detonated at 1110/5 in 111° 2.2 miles from North Pier Light. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1135/5 to D.M.S.)

Plymouth Since my 1536/2, one Red Mine detonated single L. at 0924/5 20 yards East of Melampus Buoy. (C.in C. W.A. 1526/5 to Adty.)

Sweep of QZS. 148. My 1806. Intend to sail 8 Fleet Sweepers S.O. NIGER at 0745 tomoorow to carry out high percentage searching sweep of 1½ miles on west side of centre line of QZS 148 from junction of 7 QZF to position 'Z' and back on eastern side down to north east Swin Light Vessel. Request Fighter protection from 0830 to 1730 between 52 degs 08 north 01 degs 53' east and 51 degs 48' north 01 degs 30' East.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1810/5 to C.in C. Nore).

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boat. Suspicious craft, believed E-Boat, circled to S. of me near Sunk Light Vessel and made off to S.W. Report from Patrol H.R.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 0421/5 to C.in C. Nore).
Suspect E-Boat near our Patrol. Report from PAUL RYKENS. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0450/5 to C.in C. Nore).

Enemy Convoy. A/C reports one Escort Vessel and 3 M/V's in 49° 48' N. 4° 15' W. at 0825, proceeding Westward. Investigate and report. (C.in C. W.A. 1200/5 to JERSEY, JUPITER)

Southern Sound. (1) Falsterbo buoyed channel has been moved to westward so that vessels now follow five fathom line about four miles west of Falsterbo and pass between Lillegrund and Bredalisd.
(2) Progress on Falsterbo Canal indicates that it will open Spring 1941.
(N.A. Stockholm 1220/5 to D.N.I.)

MOST SECRET.

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CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

FURIOUS	See Operations.
One M/V.	In tow 5 miles S.E. of Girdleness at 0100/5. Proceeding to Methil at 5 knots. (C.in C. Rosyth 0040/5).
DURMITOR.	(Yugo-Slavian, 5623 tons). Due Batavia 17/10 from Lorenzo Marques. Not arrived. (S.O.I. Singapore 0209 Z/5 to C.in C. China).
MELROSE ABBEY (British, 1908 tons) GARTBRATTAN (British, 1811 tons)	Report collision in 51° N. 19° 25' W. at 0913. Investigate and report. (C.in C. W.A. 1000/5 to OTTAWA, HARVESTER)

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Convoys.

Shipping.

C.W.16. My 1650/4. A/S trawlers delete AMETHYST, LADY PHILOMENA substitute KINGSTON OLIVINE LORD PLENDER. (C.in C. Nore, 1643/5)

H.G.46. Providing endurance of ships in convoy permit route for H.G. 46 amended as follows: (C.in C. W.A. 1421/5).

Convoy H.X. 83. My 1950/4 and my 0031/5 escorts are not to leave convoy H.X. 83 until further orders. (C.in C. W.A. 0505/5 to SAGUENAY, SKEENA, ACTIVE).

H.X. 83. At 1015/5 H.X.83 was reported by enemy aircraft. (D.D.I.C. 1143/5).

H.X.83. To avoid possible U-boat alter course forthwith to 090° until 09° 00' W. is reached thence to splitting position. (C.in C. W.A. 1125/5).
U-boat probably shadowing H.X.83 (D.D.I.C. 1513/5).

H.X. 84. Attacked by raider GRAF SPEE class (see North Atlantic Raider)

O.B. 239. LA MALOUINE has taken the place of ANEMONE in O.B. 239. She will rendezvous with convoy daylight 6/11. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1145/5).

O.B. 238. Amended route to keep clear of S.C.9 (C.in C. W.A. 1153/5)

O.G.46. F.O.I.C. Greenock 1255/31. Intend sailing HAARLEM and ERIN in convoy O.G.46. (C.in C. W.A. 1800/5).

S.C.9. Cancel my 0505/5. Escorts with H.X.83. Act in accordance with my 1950/4 and my 0031/5. (C.in C. W.A. 0817/5 to SKEENA, etc).

O.G.45. Following received from GLENAFFARIC (begins) Convoy dispersed during night rendezvous in position 046° 33' N. 020° 20' W. noon 6/11 thence route Gibraltar (ends.) Reference 0630 from authority indicated. (C.in C. W.A., 0619/5, to SALOPIAN).

S.L. 52. Convoy S.L. 52 estimated to be in position 052° 46' N. 019°50' W. at 0800/5 steering to pass through 053° 50' N. 017° 35' W. thence through 054° 10' N. 015° 50' W. at 8½ knots. If not in contact join S.L.52 forthwith. (C.in C. W.A. 0837/5 to OTTAWA, HARVESTER).

MOST SECRET

5.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Troop Convoys.

W.S.4A.

Shipping.

Admty. 1435/4. What is present position and route of W.S.4A? (RETORIA CASTLE, 0319/5) Comply with Admty. 1435/4. W.S.4A is proceeding by following route. (C.in C. S.A. 0959 M/5)

PASTEUR

Your 2005/4. PASTEUR urgently required in U.K. for further troop movements. (D.O.D. (F) 1150/5 to F.O. Force H).

Greek Shipping.

My 2005/28. Movements of Greek vessels outside Mediterranean and Black Sea now controlled by Greek Shipping Committee, London. (D.T.D., 1152/5).

STRATHAIRD
ORCADES

STRATHAIRD and ORCADES arrived Clyde. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1940/5).

FRANCONIA

Desired to sail to Jamaica with Gibraltarian refugees, and she should be provided with A/S and ocean escort. She should R.V. with the A.M.C. Escort of H.X.87 when she leaves the convoy, and be escorted to Halifax. She will afterwards proceed independently to Jamaica. C.in C. W.A. is requested to sail FRANCONIA with Convoy W.S.4(b) (date) and arrange for her to leave the convoy escorted by two of the destroyer escort so as to rendezvous with A.M.C. as necessary. (D.O.D.(H) 1528/5).

Rescue Ships.

Admty. 2108/4. Presumed this refers to ocean convoys, as detailing rescue ships by name in coastal convoys not practicable owing ships joining and leaving at intermediate ports and changes in formations of convoy during voyage. Propose to continue present practice that rear ships of columns in coastal convoys are always rescue ships. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1228/5).

A.M.C. Cargo Space.

Admty. 1226/19/10 and C.in C.S.A.2052/30/10. Any space available in homeward bound Armed Merchant Cruisers after service requirements have been met should be used for commercial cargoes purchased by Ministry of Food or Ministry of Supply details of which are known to Elder Dempsters' Freetown House. You should arrange supply from local sources of any dunnage required to ensure efficient stowage of cargo. (D. of S.T. 1038/5 to D.S.T.O. Freetown).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

Oil Supplies
JEANNE D'ARC
BEARN

Navy Department have given me following received from their observer at Martinique. Tons of oil at Martinique and Guadeloupe. JEANNE D'ARC was recently refulled at Government tanks. Present supply sufficient to supply Merchant vessels for one month and Island two months. Naval vessels supply sufficient for two months except for BEARN which has supply for only one month. (N.A.Washington, 1021/5)

Petrol,
Madagascar

Shell Co. state their Agent in Madagascar has telegraphed that 36000 gallons Aviation Spirit originally supplied for use of R.A.F in April 1940 has been requisitioned on instructions of Vichy Government and that Military are enquiring for further 245000 litres from Shell Co. (S.O.I. Capetown 1023B/5)

Shipping,
Rio

French N.A. Rio de Janeiro whose sincerity is undoubted informs French Embassy Rio de Janeiro received 31/10 telegrams indicating that French Government propose shipping supplies from South America using in the first instance 4 French Ships now at Buenos Aires. Same source opines that Admiral Darlan whom he mistrusts may be contemplating recovery of prestige by attempting to run escorted French Convoys to and from South America. (N.A., Rio de Janeiro, 1645/5)

French
Repatriation

My 1522/2. Following French ships are proceeding to U.K. from U.S.A. with Admiralty approval. WINNIPEG, SAN FARNCISCO, WYOMING and OREGON. (Route)
Possible these ships may endeavour to make Casablanca or other French port. If encountered off their route they should be sent in. (D.O.D. (F) 1706/5 to C. in C., S.A., F.O.C.N.A., F.O.C.N.P.)

/Dakar.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

Dakar
Intelligence

My 1151/31 and 1105/1. Following obtained from Lt. Montezer escaped from Dakar; French Intelligence Officer of ten years experience.

1. Arrival four submarines and tanker 26-27/10, also departure of tanker and one submarine shortly after arrival and return same day. Rumoured from various sources including two submarine sailors that tanker on that day met South East of Cape Manuel at least seven submarines nationality unknown.

2. SS MARRAKECH is making six trips with munitions from Casablanca for replenishment of local defence requirements. Stated shells were French but fuses German.

3. Date of arrival commission for trial of Bois Lambert and others not known, expect trial would take one month. Belief expressed that he will be shot.

4. About a month ago, volunteers were called for from French Navy at Dakar for an expedition to "The South" Up to his departure, 29/10 only forty per cent of number required had been obtained.

5. Fleet controls Dakar. Pro-British airmen and military officers are being sent back to France and replaced by pro-Vichy.

6. When air plans are complete there will be 300 to 400 Glen Martins and Curtiss and fighters in Dakar area.

7. Estimated twenty Germans now in Dakar; three are members of disarmament commission and one controls shipping.

(C. in C., S.A. 2009/5)

/Second...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Operation "White" ARGUS

Asking if Hurricanes can fly in full moonlight 2 hours before daylight etc., (S.O. Force H to ARGUS 1146/5) Reply. Yes, provided weather is clear. Position 40 miles further westward can be accepted provided upper air is not easterly. (ARGUS to S.O.Force H., 2031/5) Your 1905/4. Two Skuas have been embarked in ARGUS for this purpose. Air Ministry have arranged for 2 Sunderlands from Malta to be provided by H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. (D.O.D. (F) to F.O. Force1512/5)

Destroyers

Re heavy commitments and shortage when S.O. Force H sails on operation "Coat". Request A/S escort for ARGUS to Gibraltar be provided by U.K. (F.O.C.N.A., 1240/5 to Adty.)

URSULA

Suggested leaving night of 7/11. (S.O. Force H 1601/5) Cancel my 1601 URSULA has developed defects which will probably require 10 days to complete. (S.O.Force H. 1935/5)

TRIUMPH

Your 2302/30. Route (F.O.C.N.A. to V.A.S. 1204/5)

ARGUS DESPATCH

Intend sailing, escorted by VESPER, VENOMOUS, WINDSOR, at 1000/7 (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1617/5)

Raider

Pocket battleship attacking convoy H.X.84 RENOWN, BARHAM etc., to raise steam (V.C.N.S. 2128/5) See North Atlantic Raider HOME COMMANDS.)

Enemy Air Reconnaissance

Situation report. Martin Recco. over Rock 1237/5 driven off by A.A.Fire. (Governor, 2107/5 to W.O.)

Italian S/M's Tangier

Your 1836/3 and 1918/4. Consul General Tangier has been instructed to press for interment of Italian submarines in Tangier zone if they have not left zone within 24 hours of their arrival. Ambassador at Madrid has been instructed in similar terms and asked to enquire what steps the Spaniards propose to take to intern the submarines. (Hd. of M. 0121/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Second....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Italian S/M's Tangier-Contd.

Second submarine which entered port last evening is reported as being of WOOLICHANI class (Janes Fighting Ships 1939 page 286) Both submarines are alongside jetty and both have their W/T rigged.
(Consul-General, Tangier. 1045/5)

"Governor" Tangier explained to me as follows.
Submarine "A" which arrived 3/11 has secretly now been reported to him by (one) a local engineer and (two) a Spanish Naval Engineer as suffering from damage to the stern.
Gear starting machinery is broken, and the submarine cannot dive; electrical machinery is also out of order.
This only a provisional report, thought submarine has suffered further injuries.
Diver was examining her this morning.
At expiry of 24 hours (i.e. at 1750/4) he had formally instructed Captain to leave the port but latter has pleaded that he could not do so owing to damage. Repairs to damage already assessed would take at least two weeks; probable that diver would find further damage.
If it was found repairs could not be effected in Tangier, submarine and crew would be interned.

As to submarine "B" which entered harbour p.m/4 its Captain would be instructed to sail within 24 hours (ie. by 1830/5 unless it was proved that damage was of sufficient seriousness to necessitate his vessel's further stay in Tangier.
(Consul-Gen., Tangier 1230/5, to F.O)

Spanish Attitude

Chief Naval Staff informs me Spanish Government has assumed full responsibility for strict application of International Law in connexion with the 2 Italian S/M's now at Tangier. Minelayer JUPITER has been sent to Tangier to enforce compliance. Orders given for first S/M not to be allowed to leave. Same order will apply to second after 24 hours expires about 1800 today. First S/M has claimed damage rendering him unseaworthy. Bow obviously stove in at least 3 feet. Diver sent to inspect under water damage. It is not yet clear if second S/M has damage.
(N.A.Madrid, 1357/5)

/Asking....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic-Contd.

Asking Permission to Attack.

If Italian U-Boat on leaving Tangier remains in Spanish territorial waters may she be attacked after a period of 24 hours from time to time of entering Tangier while still in territorial waters. (F.O.C.N.A 1616/5 to Admty.)

Your 1615/5. It is regretted that violation of international law governing territorial waters cannot be approved. (D.O.D. (F) 2133/5).

My 669. At 17 hours this evening Ministry received a note from "Governor" of Tangier informing me that as local diver was not available a telegraphic request had been made to Spanish Minister of Marine at Madrid that one should be sent to Tangier with all speed from Cadiz. There would therefore be a 48 hours delay before examination of submerged portions of submarine "A" could take place.
Note further stated above did not alter the fact of "impossibility to navigate in which submarine now found itself", a certainty which had been confirmed by Spanish Naval Engineer.
(Consul Gen., Tangier, 1930/5)

No. 670. Discusses political aspect at length. (Consul-Gen., Tangier, T.O.D. 1522/5)

89. Tangier reports position unchanged. Depot ship still alongside both submarines See Consul General Tangier 670. to Foreign Office. (F.O.I.C. Gib. 2128/5)

Second S/M Damage Use of W/T

My 2040/5. My immediatly preceding telegram. "Governor" Tangier informs me as regards Submarine "B".
2. This vessel had had trouble on sea bottom and had bumped itself so that one propeller blade had been shorn off, and propeller shaft had also become bent, and this caused engine to overheat. In addition electrical apparatus was defective.

/Question.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Second Submarine Damage, Use of W/T- Contd.

Question of Repairs.
Spanish Naval "Interventor" who is in charge of them while they are her admitted their W/T had been rigged all day but that this had now been taken down.

Two submarines were coming from Atlantic to Mediterranean, and had an extremely difficult time with currents in Straits. Captain of Submarine B told Colonel Yuste that he broke surface thinking that he was opposite Ceuta.
(Consul-Gen., Tangier, 2210/5.)

Hague Rules

Your 1357/5. Article 17 of the 13th Hague Convention must be interpreted to mean that a vessel is entitled to put itself in a condition to navigate safely having regard solely to conditions of sea and weather. Consequently a belligerent submarine in a neutral port is entitled only to effect such repairs as will allow it to navigate with safety upon the surface. Above contention may also be supported by reference to the provision in the same article that warships in neutral ports may not add in any manner to their fighting force.
Above interpretation of the rights of a submarine to effect repairs in a neutral port was accepted by H.M.G. when TRIAD was damaged earlier in the war and took refuge in Stavanger. (Head of M., 2250/5 to N.A.Madrid)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

TROPIC STAR — My 0925B/4. TROPIC STAR arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0935B/5)

Petrol, Madagascar — Requisitioned by Vichy French. (See Operation Against Vichy French) (1023B/5)

Suspected Ship — My 1404/30, re cargo ship, suspected Italian has been passed to you for information. Admty, and S.O.I., Capetown, reports ship cannot be identified. (S.O.I., Freetown, 1042/5 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Troop Movement — My 2010/4 and C. in C., E.I. 0656/5. Arrangements for ATHLONE CASTLE, LLANDAFF CASTLE, LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE and SELANDIA, transport of troops to Mombasa. (N.O.I.C., Simonstown, 1605B/5, to Adty.)

CUBA — C. in C., A.W.I. states report received from St. Lucia that CUBA carries gold packed in small box marked Rum Sugar. (C. in C., S.A. to ROYAL SOVEREIGN, MORETON BAY DRAGON, 2013/5)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN — To proceed to Halifax at best possible speed. (V.C.N.S. 2125/5 to C. in C., S.A. C. in C., S.A., 2319/5) (See HOME COMMANDS North Atlantic Raider)

ALMKERK — ALMKERK is estimated to be in position 009° S., 010° W., at noon/5 steering for position 011° N., 019° W., speed 15 knots. If encountered she should be instructed to pass to westward of Cape Verde Isles out of sight of land and to rejoin her original route in latitude 037° N., (C. in C., S.A. 1209N/5 to BULOLO)

BELGRAVIAN Foodstuffs — My 2023/3 from Spears mission received 5/11 states foodstuffs in BELGRAVIAN not required by Governor French Cameroons as ther is an adequate stock at Duala. In view of all previous negotiations which finally resulted in permission being obtained to hand these over free of charge, please confirm that situation has been misrepresented and that food is not required. BELGRAVIAN due to sail 6/11 for Manoka anchorage. (C. in C., S.A, 1825/5 to Govr. Nigeria.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Operations	Details of 3 operations. (1) NEWCASTLE, with R.A.F. personnel and stores with "White" (2) MANCHESTER and SOUTHAMPTON with R.A.F. and M.T. ship NEW ZEELAND with R.A.F. stores, with "Collar" (3) FURIOUS with Hurricanes for Takoradi. (A.C.N.S. (F)to C. in C., Med., 0218/5)
	See Mediterranean Volume
	Your 1335/4. Recommend following route (for Operation Coat) (V.A.Malta to C. in C., Med. 1037/5)
	Admty. 0218/5. Date for R.V. Propose S.O. Force H should decide.(C. in C., Med., 1131/5 to Admty.) C. in C., Med. 1131/5. As (date) maked no allowance for possible delays, propose SHEFFIELD take over M.T. ships in 41° N., 21° W. (S.O. Force H., 1412/5 to Admty.)
Controlled Night Landings	Your 1205/9/10. Reply (D.N.A.D. to R.A. Med. A/C's 1327/5)
Motor Yachts	Available for shipment if required. (D.S.V.P., to C. in C., Med., 1542/5)
French Fleet	Letter from Adm. Godfroy denying reports of bases and warships being put at disposal of axis Powers. (C. in C. Med., 1749/5)
Submarines	Bring into force condition A. (Capt. S.1. 1915/5)
FORMIDABLE EAGLE	Admty. 1955/1. Grateful for FORMIDABLE. EAGLE does not need refit before operating on trade route. Suggesting certain exchanges, and that FORMIDABLE might proceed through Mediterranean during Operation Colla. (C. in C., Med., to Admty 2001/5)
Trujillo Ships	Your 1919/4. Regret impossible to provide any forces at present. (F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 1250/5 to N.A.Madrid)

/N.A.Madrid.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Trujillo Ships-Contd. N.A.Madrid 1919/4. As improbable that interception of ships could be arranged M.E.W. is warning Trujillo Line that cargoes must be unloaded. (D.E.W.D. to F.O.C.N.A., 1822/5)

REGENT Leaves at 1600/6 for diving trials and patrol. (N.O.I.C., Malta 1701/5)

HOTSPUR Your 1337/1. Date to complete repairs. Intended to sail HOTSPUR for Malta with Operation Collar. (F.O.C.N.A. to C. in C., Med., 1120/5)

Fulmars Re shortage of. Asking consideration to drafting from a carrier similar to "Hurry" (C. in C., Med., to Admty., 2017/5)

Italian S/M GONDAR (sunk 30/9) F.O.C.N.A. 1020/1. (report of diving operations) GONDAR had tubular structure before conning tower, etc. Consider contained device similar to those employed at Gibraltar. (C. in C., Med, to Admty.) (1741/5)

Danube Enemy Intelligence from Wiesbaden from representative summoned to discuss ex-French Danube lighters. (Wolffson, Beyoglu, 1230/5, to D.N.I.)

Air Report Reconnaissance of Taranto, Brindisi and Corfu did not take place 5/11.
Large number of small coasters at Argostoli.
Bombing attacks carried out on oil patches in position 035° 40' N., 023° 37' E., 035° 44' N., 016° 24' E. Nil results.
T.O.O. 1853/5 (V.A.Malta, 1897/5)

Huelva Consul Huelva reports Spanish SS CABO ORAGATRY from Bilbao to Barcelona is reported to have a number of aircraft bombs for Italy. (D.3.)
(2) Italian SS GAETA still unloading. Cargo leaving by rail (true)
(3) Cork being sent by rail to Irun. (true)
(N.A.Madrid 2317/5)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Suez Canal Administration

Admty. 0027/9/7. Not altogether satisfied with Bonnet's visit. (Reasons)
Definitely known that De Benoist is already receiving instructions from New Canal H.Q. at Chatel Guyon and Bonnet's visit may herald attempt at intensification of French control of Canal Affairs at expense of British Control.
Consider De Benoist is already placed in a most difficult position in receiving orders from both London and Chatel Guyon, and that following action is immediately necessary (Details)
Return or impending return of certain more highly placed officials, of whose attitude I am ignorant, has given me grave cause for concern.
Consider, unless strong British control of Canal Company is immediately imposed we risk a swing to control from France and local support of Vichy. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1129/5 to Admty.)

61. Request that no more Suez Canal Company's employees be allowed to return to Egypt until a reply has been received to my 1129/5 to Admty. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1132/5 to Ambassador, Cairo)

Air Attacks on Sicily

Governor Malta's 1633/9/7 and your 1449/10/7 Now that offensive operations against Italy are being undertaken by R.A.F. Bomber aircraft operating from Malta, request you will consider use of naval Swordfish squadron at Malta offensively against some of the excellent targest in Sicily. (D. of P. 1726/5 to C. in C., Med.)

Aircraft for Greece

A 690 5th Nov. Secret. Your (? 907) 1133 5th November. Bombays up to (?4) per day will be flying to or from Greece daily for approximately next 3 weeks. In addition Blenheim and Wellesleys will fly to or from Greece on days when weather suitable. (H.Q., M.E., to C. in C., Med. 1727/5)

French Fleet Funds

Your 1425/31 re release of French Funds. French Fund in U.S.A. has not been released and 22,000 pounds Egyptian were supplied to French Fleet on 29/10. Para 2 has been answered by my 2141/1. (C. in C., Med 2021/5 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

5.11.1940
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Assistance to Greece.

Minelaying by Aircraft — Attacks, Athens, 2106/4. Suggesting Durazzo (D. of P. to C. in C., Med., 1322/5) See Mediterranean Volume)

East Indies

EL WAFI — Left Kamaran p.m./3 for patrol. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 06132/5)

Seychelles Defence — Requesting reply to his 1058/24. Question being placed before Ceylon Govt. today (C. in C., E.I. 07342/5 to Admty.)

Whalers — My 0774/27. Re minesweeping equipment. (C. in C., E.I., 07442/5)

KIMBERLEY — Requesting new main steam pipe be sent to Bombay. (C. in C., E.I., 15102/5)

Whalers — Proposed renaming.,(C. in C., E.I., 12102/5)

Aden — Re improvement of handling facilities and power supply. (C. in C., E.I., 19402/5)

Air Reconnaissance — My A. 728 4/11, Summary No 145 French flight reconnaissance and no changes observed or photographically revealed at Raheita, Markhama Bay, Eddi, Hilul, Eid, Thio, Meder since last reconnaissance and no apparent activities. No new shipping Assan and no south Red Sea dhow traffic observed. Slight A.A. from Assab. (A.H.Q. Aden, 1804/5)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

Greek Shipping

Your 1121/4. Control of Greek shipping outside Mediterranean placed in hands of Greek Minister, London, who is issuing sailing instructions. Following ordered to proceed to Japan. (list) (D.T.D. to N.A. Toyo, 0020/5) (C. in C., Vhina, 04432/5)

DURMITOR

Yugoslav, due Batavia 17/10 from Lourenco Marques, not arrived. (S.O.I. Singapore, 02092/5)

Singapore Construction

Defence Conference rumoured building of local defence craft at Singapore be exploited to maximum. Request approval to keep building berths full. (C. in C., China, to Admty, 02232/5)

Hong Kong Japanese A/C

3 Japanes bomber aircraft passed over Hong Kong at 0825 local time 4/11. Request you will protest. (C. in C., China 0241/Z/5 to Ambassador, Tokyo.)

Shanghai Staff

F.O. tel. 1193 to Shanghai. Consider S.O.I and R.N.O. must remain for present and that if evacuation becomes necessary attempt be made to get them and staffs in--cluded in Consular list. (C. in C., China 03592/5 to Admty.)

Wei-Hai-Wei

Evacuation of stores, craft etc., complete M.O.I.C. and 1 rating will proceed Shanghai shortly. (C. in C., China 08042/5)

Japanese Shipping

My 1047/30. Following sailings of Japanese merchant vessels also appear to have been cancelled: ASAMA MARU Kobe to Shanghai 6/11. HELAN MARU Yokohama to Seattle 6/12. ASAMA's departure for San Francisco 29/11 is still listed. (N.A. Tokyo, 1137/5)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

Town Destroyers

Your 1321/4. Retain STANLEY until further orders and report state of CHESTERFIELD. (R.A. 3 B.S. to N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F. 1032/5)
Your 1751/4. Glad to provide C. and M party for 7 destroyers. Consideration will be given to R.C.N. taking over one of 9 destroyers complete should you favour such action. (C.N.S., Canada, 1147/5 to Admty.)

French Shipping

Proposal to run French escorted convoys from S. America (See Operations Against Vichy French)

Raider H.X. 84 Attacked

JERVIS BAY report C. in C., A.W.I., 1632/5 (See HOME COMMANDS, North Atlantic Raider)

SAKURA MARU

S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica 2111/10. New York reports SAKURA MARU boarded before arrival by United States coast guards who are convinced no foundation in statement. (c. in C., A.W.I., 1844/5)

Australia

U.S. 8.

My 0829/18. U.S. 8. N.Z.N.B. number now 5246 all ranks including 1500 to embark Lyttelton. Australian requirements 12700. Total 17046 all ranks. Also required if possible 300 naval for Mediterranean. (A.C.N.B., 06292/5, to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

IDARWALD — Your 1723/21. Tampico reports ships was loading 200 tons coal and may sail soon. (S.O.I. Kingston 2102/5 to C. in C., A.W.I)

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS

GAETA — Consul Huelva reports still unloading. Cargo leaving by rail. (N.A.Madrid 2317/5)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS

CARAIBE — N.C.S. Officer Lourenco Marques reports Rennie and sons there received telegraphic request from Messageries Maritimes Mombasa and Madagascar for names of agents at Mozambique to handle CARAIBE. This ship believed to be at Diego Saurez. My 1823/21/10 Refers. (S.O.I. Capetown 1133A/5)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

LAURENTIC
PATROCLUS
CASANARE
(Torpedoed 3/11)

My 1657/4 to ACTIVE. Two destroyers only are to be detached to proceed to Clyde with survivors. ACTIVE arranging any necessary transfer of survivors. When well clear of convoy, S.O. detached destroyers is to report names. (C. in C., W.A. 0031/5 to SAGUENNAY, ACTIVE)

SCOTTISH MAIDEN

British, 6993 tons. Sunk by U-Boat in position 54.32 N., 14.38 W at 0155. Have 23 survivors (BEAGLE+ 0320/5)
In Convoy H.X 83 (D.S. 427) Ship torpedoed in position 54.40 N., 14.16 W., (SAGUENAY 0230/5) Informing N.O.I.C. Greenock. (C. in C., W.A. 0523/5) Tugs ASSURANCE and THAMES ordered to assist (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0757/5) THAMES and DUNMORE HEAD sailed. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0857/5) MARAUDER to sail instead of ASSURANCE whose steering gear is defective. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0859/5) Your 0757. Believed ship in my 0230 was SCOTTISH MAIDEN (SAGUENAY, 0946/5, to N.O.I.C. Greenock) My 0757 Sailed MARAUDER in place of ASSURANCE (F.O.I.C. 1025/5) Your 0230/5 and BEAGLE 0320/5. When clear of convoy report in accordance 752 AZ with particular reference to any U-Boats sighting or contact. (C. in C., W.A. to SAGUENAY, 1102/5)

MELROSE ABBEY

British 1908 tons. SSSS 51.40 N., 17.08 W. Chased by submarine (MELROSE ABBEY, 0824/5 0836/5) Require immediate assistance 51.03N 19.35 W., (MELROSE ABBEY and GARTBRATTAN, 1041/5)

GARTBRATTAN

British 1811 tons (See MELROSE ABBEY)

MEGGIE

Swedish 1583 tons. According to report dated 27/10 an Italian submarine 60 miles southwest of Island Santa Maria sank Swedish ship MEGGIE. A lifeboat with Captain and 9 of men arrived San Miguel. Another life boat with chief officer and 9 men is missing. Portuguese destroyer LIMA has gone out to search for it. Source (A. Zero) (Lisbon, 1818/5 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

5.11.1940
Tuesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported

0230 Submarine reported in 54.40 N., 14.16 W., at 0230/5. (C. in C., W.A. to ships in Area B. 0449/5)

0050 D.F. probably U-Boat 58.30 N., 15° W., unreliable fix. (D.N.I. 0120/5)

0106 D.F. probably U-Boat 58.20 N., 10.30 W., unereliable fix. (D.N.I. 0137/5)

0230 A.F. message 54.40 N., 14.16 W., at 0130/5 (D.D.I.C. 0515/5)

0940 Attack energy submarine in reliable position at 48.55 N., 20° W 0940 (C. in C., W.A. to HARVESTER and OTTAWA 1022/5) Position given as 48.54 N., 20.09 W. (D.D.I.C., 1034 5) Your 1022/5 Since 1115 have searched around position and 25 miles to the southwards. My position 048° 59' N., 019° 12' W Intend proceeding to arrive in accordance with your 1000/5 at daylight tomorrow Wednesday. HARVESTER in company. (OTTAWA 1931/5 to C. in C., W.A.)

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions

Italian 1 in Azores Area
German 1 in 54° 40' N., 14° 16' W., at 0230/5 may be following H.X. 83 if she has any torpedoes left. Otherwise homeward bound Northabout.
3 more in N.W. Approaches and farther West of which 1 was in area 58° to 60° N., 19° to 21° W at 1922/4, another may have been in area around 58° 30' N., 15° W., at 6050/5 and the third in area around 58° 20' N., 10° 30' W., at 0106/5, apparently not yet homeward bound as suggested yesterday. (D.D.I.C. 1214/5)
My 1214/5 add German 1 was in 48° 54' N., 20° 09' W at 0940/5 (D.D.I.C. 1534/5)

Subamrines Attacked

0940 One submarine bearing 081 distance 5 miles position 48.54 N., 20.51 W., Ame engaging (SALOPIAN, 0940/5) When sighted S/M was on surface steering 150° and submerged after SALOPIAN opened fire. (SALOPIAN 1002/5)

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MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

C. in C., H.F. in NELSON with RODNEY SOUTHAMPTON and 6 destroyers left Scapa at 0700 today to cover the Iceland-Faroes passage.

F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. detached REPULSE, BONAVENTURE and 3 destroyers at 1100/6 to proceed direct towards the area of yesterday's attack.

REVENGE was ordered to proceed to the Clyde to provide escort for west bound convoys.

Orders were sent to stop or turn back convoys and to stop independent sailings in the danger area. Convoys H.G. 46 and S.L.F. 53 were ordered to proceed to position 37° 30' N., 20° 0' W and thence towards Gibraltar; RENOWN and 3 destroyers proceeded at 0400/6 to meet and escort them to the U.K.

BARHAM reverted to the usual notice for steam.

At 2107 the Admiralty ordered RODNEY to proceed towards Halifax to escort homeward bound convoys to the U.K.

A destroyer and corvettes were sent to round up the scattered ships of convoy H.X. 84.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN returned to Freetown with boiler defects.

Submarine and air watch on the French Atlantic ports have been arranged.

R.C.N. destroyers are covering Canadian Coastal waters and approaches, and aircraft of Canadian Air Force carried out a reconnaissance today from 600 miles towards the reported position of the raider, without result.

At 2208/6 the general indication by D/F was that ADMIRAL SCHEER had moved to the northward.

/Convoy C.W. 16....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Convoy C.W. 16 Shelled

Convoy C.W. 16 was shelled by enemy coast batteries at 2245 today while passing Dover. 14 rounds were fired but no damage is reported.

2 Enemy Supply Ships Sunk

STURGEON reports that she sank a 2000 ton supply ship 3/11 and a 1200 supply ship 6/11 while on patrol off the south coast of Norway.

British Air Activity

Bomber Command

Wellingtons attacked the Railway Terminus and quays at Brindisi successfully.

Attacks, apparently very successful, were made on the Seebach Shipyards at Bremerhaven, Deutsche Shipyards at Bremen and Naval Docks at Emden, by 19 Wellingtons which dropped 16 tons of bombs last night.

Channel Ports were also successfully attacked last night.

During the day, merchant vessels in Cuxhaven harbour were bombed from a height of 50 ft., one burst being seen under the stern of a large M.V.

A Convoy of 8 or 9 M.V's was attacked off the Helder; results were not observed.

Coastal Command

Two Beauforts on offensive patrol attacked a convoy of 12 ships 18 miles S.W. of Terschelling. One torpedo hit a large heavily laden merchant ship, causing her to heel over and make for shore while other merchant vessels went to her assistance.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

Pembroke Dock was bombed early this morning; military but no naval damage was caused.

No 4 Dry Dock, Southampton is unusable owing to a U.X.B. dropped at 1500 today. Another H.E. bomb dropped near the dock during this attack caused no damage.

Convoy W.N. 31 Attacked
CLAN MACKINLAY
HARBOROUGH

Convoy W.N. 31 was attacked this evening 30 miles S.E. of Duncansby Head. CLAN MACKINLAY (6365 tons) and HARBOROUGH (5415 tons) were set on fire and abandoned. The latter was taken in tow for Scapa. The former is believed to have sunk later.

Convoy S.L. 52 Attacked
NALON

Convoy S.L. 52 was attacked this morning 220 miles west of Blacksod Bay. NALON (7222 tons) was bombed and abandoned. Two tugs have been sent to bring the ship in; she carries a valuable cargo of copper.

OLGA

OLGA (British 2252 tons) a straggler from Convoy H.X. 83 was attacked 15 miles N.W. of Islay this afternoon, but no damage is reported.

Reconnaissance of Faroes

An enemy aircraft is reported to have made a reconnaissance flight over the Faroe Islands this afternoon.

Mining

ELGIN Damaged

M/S Trawler ELGIN was slightly damaged by a near mine explosion off Harwich p.m. today. Another mine was destroyed by fleet sweepers.

GIRL HELEN Sunk

Dan-laying drifter GIRL HELEN was mined and sunk off the Tyne 1030 today.

SEVRA Sunk

M/S Trawler SEVRA was mined and sunk off Falmouth about noon today.

/Ports Affected..

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining-Contd.

Ports Affected

Enemy aircraft were engaged in minelaying in the Humber last night, and were believed to be minelaying off the East Coast and North East Coast.

The original approach channel to Milford Haven was reopened today.

Four more mines were exploded off Plymouth.

Falmouth was closed early, and mines were later exploded.

Mines were exploded in Firth of Forth and Bristol Channel.

Operation
B.S. 45

Further mines were laid today in the East Coast mine barrier.

North Atlantic

ARK ROYAL, BERWICK, GLASGOW and accompanying destroyers arrived at Gibraltar p.m. today from the U.K. V.A.Force H transferred his flag to ARK ROYAL on arrival.

SHEFFIELD arrived at Gibraltar this morning from Azores patrol.

ENCOUNTER (screening RENOWN) and UTMOST (on passage to join Meditn. Fleet) were in collision about 140 miles west of Gibraltar at 1225 today. Both ships were slightlu damaged but require docking. FORESTER escorted them to Gibraltar.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

AJAX and SYDNEY arrived at Suda Bay p.m. today with Bofors batteries.

Operation "Coat"

The Mediterranean Fleet sailed to cover the operations and meet Force F (BARHAM, BERWICK, GLASGOW and 3 destroyers, for Medtn. Fleet)

Mines on Yugoslav Coast

A broadcast from Budapest at 0216/6 states that on account of mines having been washed up on the Yugoslav coast navigation is prohibited in certain regions, and all navigation at night along the entire coast.

East Indies

SS BARON HERRIES reports that she sighted a U-Boat periscope about 330 miles E, of Madagascar this morning.

America & West Indies

DIOMEDE and VAN KINSBERGEN are proceeding to establish a patrol to the eastward of Martinique, to intercept French merchant vessel CHARLES L.D. which left Casablanca for Martinique 29/10.

/Convoys.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE — At 2330/6 (D.C. 2336/6) At 2330/5 (D.C. 0012/6)

Movements

BULLDOG — C. in C., H.F. 0059/6. Intend sailing BULLDOG for Skaale Fiorde Faroes at 1400/6 (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0915/6)

Destroyer Escorts.

EDINBURGH — In addition to the sailing of ARGUS on 7/11 the following commitments for destroyer escorts have to be met in the near future:-

A. 14/11. Ships specified in para A.2 and A. 3 of my 0218/5.

B. 17/11. Convoy W.S.4.B consisting of liners carrying troops (numbers)

2. In order to assist with B, the three destroyers lent from the Nore are to remain under C. in C., W.A. for the present.

3. EDINBURGH will be required as ocean escort for W.S.4.B.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1059/6 to C. in C., W.A., C. in C., H.F.)

PRINCE BAUDOUIN — Intend sailing at 1900/6, speed 16 knots, expected time of arrival Milford Haven 0800/7 for onward routeing Invergordon. (N.C.S.O Dartmouth, 1023/6)

REVENGE — Detail 3 destroyers to relieve JACKAL, JUPITER, JAGUAR as escort to Clyde at 0800/7 in position 52° 43' N., 05° 18' W., Return Liverpool after escort duty. REVENGE to amend R.V. if necessary (C. in C., W.A. 1037/6 to Capt. D. Liverpool, WARWICK, WALKER and VANSITTART detailed (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1540/6)

Nore Command — Movements to 1200/7 (C. in C., Nore, 1200/6)

Dover — Patrols for night 6/7 (V.A.Dover, 1417/6)

/Orkneys.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements-Contd.

Orkneys and Shetlands	Movements for night 6/7, estimated position 2000 (A.C.O.S. 1527/6-1529/6)
HECTORIA	Sailed escorted by ERIN and HAARLEM in accordance with my 1320/6 (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1544/6)
Portsmouth	Movements for night 6/7 (C. in C., Portsmouth, 160306)
Western Approaches	Movements for night 6/7 (C. in C., W.A. 1622/6.) My 1630/6 Amend as follows (C. in C., W.A. 1900/6)
BULLDOG	Sailed for Faroes 0059/6. Expected time of arrival Skaale Fiord 0900/8 (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1705/5 to N.O.I.C. Faroes)

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER	A. NEWCASTLE is to carry out orders given in my 0218/5. B. REVENGE is to sail tomorrow 6th Nov. for Clyde and will provide escort for Westbound convoys. (V.C.N.S. 0008/6 to C. in C., W.A.) S.L. 53 to steer for 37° 30' N., 20° W and thence towards Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S. T 0010/6 to ARAWA) Turn H.G. 46 round and steer for 37° 30' N 20° W., and thence towards Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S. T. 0011/6 to WELLINGTON) RENOWN proceed with despatch towards 37° 30' N., 20° W. Transfer your flag as convenient, and subsequently to ARK ROYAL or SHEFFIELD on arrival for Operation COAT. (V.C.N.S. 0018/6 to S.O. Force H) Turn ships in company in S.L. 53 slow to course 080° until further orders. (A.C.N.S. T 0019/6 to NESTLEA)

/Convoys H.G. 46...

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER Contd.

Convoys H.G. 46 and S.L.F. 53 have been instructed to proceed to position 37° 30' N., 20° 00' W., and thence towards Gibraltar. They will probably reach position named about 1900 7th November. Escort S.L.F. 53 is ARAWA.

Estimated positions of convoys at 0100/6
H.G. 46 42° 10' N., 19° 30' W.S.L.F. 53
32° 40' N., 25° 10' W.
Convoy S.L.533 unescorted has been ordered to steer 080, and its estimated position at 0100/6 is 36° 30' N., 26° 558 W. You should assemble convoys and proceed towards U.K. some ships of H.G. 46 may have to fuel in Irish ports.
(D.T.D. 0035/6 to RENOWN.)

Convoy B.H.X. 86 to return to Bermuda
(A.C.N.S. T. 0053/6 to MONTCLARE)

Convoy H.X. 86 is to return to Halifax.
(A.C.N.S. T. 0056/6 to VOLTAIRE)

Convoy S.C. 11 is not to sail till further orders. (A.C.N.S. T. 0057/6)

CORNWALL with W.S. 4 A steer for 42° N., 23° W. RENOWN is proceeding to 37° 30' N., 20° W. (A.C.N.S. F. 0101/6 to CORNWALL)

O.B. 240 is not to be sailed till further orders. (C. in C., W.A. 0103/6 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

Your 2128/5. RENOWN, BARHAM, and Destroyer Escort ready to proceed 0115/6 (S.O. Force H. 0104/6 to Adty.)

My 1435/4 is to be held in abeyance for the time being. PRETORIA CASTLE to steer for 42° N., 23° W., (AC.N.S. F. 0117/6 to PRETORIA CASTLE, CORNWALL)

My 2125/5. Report intended track and speed
(D.O.D. F. 0123/6 to C. in C., S.A.)

My 2128/5. BARHAM revert to usual notice for steam. (V.C.N.S. 0120/6 to F.O.Force H)

/340. My 0001/6.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER
Contd.

340. My 0001/6 Detach REPULSE, one ship of 15 C.S. and three destroyers to proceed direct towards last known position of raider referred to in Admiralty's 2028/5 to destroy the enemy if he remains on the convoy route.
Admiralty is requested to communicate information regarding convoys in that area to REPULSE. Request A/S air escort for REPULSE. Ends. (C. in C., H.F. 0125/6 to F.O.C. 1st B.C.S.)

RENOWN sails 0400, speed 25 knots. Route towards 37° 30' N., 20° W., SHEFFIELD keep clear to North of Straits. (F.O.C.N.A. 0300/6 to SHEFFIELD)

Your 0057/6 and your 0056/6. Holding S.H.X. 86 and S.C. 11 until further orders (N.C.S.O. Sydney, Cape Breton 0308Z/6 to Adty)

B.C. 1's 2230/5. Request A/S Air Escort for AUSTRALIA. (C. in C., H.F. 0422/6 to C. in C., W.A.)

Adty's. 0018/6. Gibraltar departure 0400/6 RENOWN, FORESTER, ENCOUNTER, GALLANT. (S.O.I Gibraltar 0530/6 to Adty.)

C. in C. H.F's 0125/6. Convoy H.X. 84 originally 38 ships 8½ knots, escort JERVIS BAY, attacked in 52° 50' N., 32° 15' W., at 2000/5, now probably dispersed in mean position 53° N., 31° W., at 0800/6. Convoy S.C. 10, 14 ships 6½ knots, escort FOLKESTONE, estimated in 51° 40' N., 31° 30' W., at 0800/6, steering towards 53° 30' N., 25° 30' N., 25° W. Convoy W.S. 4 A, 16 ships 11 knots, escort CORNWALL, estimated in 46° 40' N., 27° 10' W., at 0800/6, steering towards 42° N., 23° W., (D.T.D. 0550/6 to REPULSE)

Arrange a search at dawn Thursday from Butt of Lewis as far to westwards as possible in a direction 300° (C. in C., H.F. 0620/6 to C. in C., Rosyth)

/Prime Minister..

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER
Contd.

Prime Minister has telephoned to say that as we consider it possible that the SCHEER, which is now attacking trade in the centre of the Atlantic may return to Brest, St. Nazaire or Le Verdun, it is essential to keep a close watch on those places from the earliest time at which she may arrive there and that arrangements must be made to bomb her intensively should she be located

We estimate that the earliest time at which SCHEER could arrive at above places is 1700 on 7th. (1st S.L. 0700/6 to Chief of Air Staff)

Orders to USK and TRIDENT (V.A.(S) 1021/6 see Submarines.

If pocket battleship appears near Nova Scotia or Newfoundland I intend that F.O.C 3 B.S. should take charge of Ocean Operations using ex-American Destroyers and such ships as you may be able to assist with. Request air co-operation. (C. in C., A. and W.I. 1021/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa)

Expect to arrive position A 037° 30' N., 020° 00' W., at 1200/7. Then intend to sweep to south west and endeavour to locate Sugar London and Sugar London Freddie convoys before dark. After assembly of the three convoys intend steering for position B by 050° 00' N., 023° 00' W., Request convoys be constructed to steer 350° on reaching position A. (RENOWN 1100/6)

C. in C., H.F's 0125/6. REPULSE, BONAVENTURE MATEBELE, MASHONA, ELECTRA detached at 1100 Position 58° 18' N., 8° 36' W., course 248° speed 17 knots. (F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 1101/6 to Admty.)

Escort for
REVENGE

Detail 3 Destroyers to relieve JACKAL, JUPITER, JAGUAR escorting REVENGE to Clyde at 0800/7 in position 53° 00' N., 05° 10' W.
2. Destroyers detailed return Liverpool on conclusion of escort duty.
3. REVENGE is to amend R/V if necessary.
(C. in C., W.A. 1037/6 to Capt D. Liverpool)

Enemy aircraft has reported position of forces with you at 1032/6. (D.D.I.C. 1118/6 to F.O.C., B.C.S., REPULSE)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

ADMIRAL SHEER Contd.

ADMIRAL SCHEER may return to a French west coast port on or after tomorrow Thursday evening. Brest St. Nazaire or Gironde are likely ports. REPULSE and one cruiser are proceeding to last known position of raider. Battle cruiser force includes HOOD, AUSTRALIA from northward arriving vicinity of 057° N., 010° W., about 1500 today, thence 050° N., 013° W., thence covering approaches to Bay of Biscay ports. Battle fleet including NELSON, RODNEY are proceeding to cover Iceland Faroes passage. (V.A.S. 1106/6 to submarines on Patrol)

Cancel my 2032/5. H.X. 85 is to return to Sydney, Cape Breton. Ships which cannot be accomodated there should proceed to Halifax. (A.C.N.S. T. 1135/6 to RAJPUTANA)

Enemy aircraft has reported your position, course and speed at about 1100/6th Nov. (D.D.I.C. 1138/6 to C. in C., H.F.)

Submarine O.23 proceed to 60° N., 3° 20' E and at 0700/7 patrol within 20 miles of 59° N., 3° 50' E., At 0700/7 submarine O. 22 to proceed to patrol Zone C. 1. about 18 miles off coast. (V.A.S. 1218/6)

Until further orders all independent sailings from U.K. and between U.K., North American Atlantic Ports, and Eastern Atlantic Ports north of and including Sierra Leone, are to be suspended. (A.C.N.S. T. 1220/6)

Cancel my 0940/3 and my 1614/4. CILICIA leave patrol a.m./9 for Gibraltar for water and some fuel if available. DERBYSHIRE and CAMITO leave patrol to R/V in 37° 30' N., 20° W., at 1900/7, thence towards Gibraltar with H.Q. 46 and S.L.53 until RENOWN is met, and thence with Convoy to Clyde. F.O.C.N.A. requested arrange A/S escort for CILICIA into Gibraltar if available. (F.O.C.N.P., 1330/6 to Western Patrol)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER Contd.

My 1011/6 and your 1220/6. Have instructed Jamaica to suspend loading and sailing of Fruit Ships and report situation. Loss of cargo anticipated if delayed more than 3 days. (C.in C., A and W.I., 1401/6 to Admty.)

Re return of convoy H.X. 85 to St. Johns. Only room for 2 ships there at present. Intend send STANLEY to meet Convoy about 60 miles out, and that 15 ships go to Trinity Harbour with STANLEY and 15 ships to southward of Bell Island. My 1234/6 BUXTON has further defect and must remain in harbour. (N.O.I.C. St. Johns, Newfoundland 1446/6 to F.O.C. 3rd B.S.)

Your 0700/6. We are taking all action possible to locate and bomb ADMIRAL SCHEER Coastal Command are arranging the necessry reconnaissance and have a striking force of three squadrons (of which one is a T.B. Squadron) standing by to attack. Bomber Command are also on top line to bomb the ship when located. Provided ADMIRAL SCHEER comes within our orbit I think you will find us prepared. (Chief of Air Staff, 1715/6. to 1st S.L.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN's 0120/6. Request early report of expected date when ROYAL SOVERFIGN will be fit for service. (A.C.N.S. F. 1721/6 to C. in C., S.A.)

C. in C., A & W.I., 1021/6 and my 1051/5 should sailing of these Destroyers be postponed for the present. (F.O.C. 3rd B.S 1739/6 to Adty.)

My 1510/6. Position of DUNOTTAR CASTLE nad SAGUENAY convoys are doubtful. A/C report places them 25 miles and 20 miles to westward respectively. (C. in C., W.A. 1740/6 to F.O.C. 1st B.C.S.)

/H.X. 84.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations-Contd

H.X. 84 scattered by raider in position 52 45 N., 32 13 W., at 1830/5 and should pass through position 56. 00' N., 18.00 W between 1500/7 and 1500/7 and 1500/8 thence direct to Clyde. F.O.I.C. Liverpool is to sail HAVELOCK, FLEUR DE LYS, BLUEBELL, HONEYSUCKLE forthwith to round up convoy. F.O.I.C. Greenock to sail HESPERUS to R/V with HAVELOCK as arranged by F.O.I.C. Liverpool. Destroyers to proceed independently of corvettes. All escorts to be given names of ships in convoy. (C. in C., W.A. 2103/6 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

1. RODNEY is to proceed towards Halifax and will escort homeward bound convoys to United Kingdom meeting them in vicinity of 45° 20' N., 52° 00' W.,
2. She will not fuel until she returns to United Kingdom and subject to this should proceed westbound at best possible speed.
3. Further instructions follow.
(1st S.L. 2107/6 to C. in C., H.F.)

My 0101/6. After passing through position 42° N., 23° W., (estimated at about 1600/7 convoy W.S. 4 A is to steer for position 35° N., 23° W., thence to Freetown as routed by C. in C., South Atlantic.
PRETORIA CASTLE is to join CORNWALL
The whole convoy is to remain together until arrival in position 35° N., 23° W., when ships of Convoy W.S. 4 C escorted by PRETORIA CASTLE are to part company and proceed independently, in accordance with my 1435/4 not to RENOWN. (D.O.D. F. 2210/6 to CORNWALL, PRETORIA CASTLE)

D/F fix at 2208/6 is about 54° 30' N., 34° W., Fix very reliable but general indication is that ADMIRAL SCHEER has moved to the Northward.(D.D.I.C. 2309/6)

Ships in O.B. 239, 240 and 241 bound for South Atlantic ports will leave convoys in 25° W and are to be routed East of the Azores. (D.T.D. 2348/6 to N.C.S.O. Liverpool, Clyde, Oban, Belfast)

CHITRAL
FRIDTJOF NANSEN

Your 1735/5. Sailed at 1035 G.M.T. for Jan Mayen Island Speed 13 knots. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 0948/6 to Adty.)

/FURIOUS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations-Contd.

FURIOUS — Ship should arrive Bar Light Vessel not later than 1600/7 (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1235/6 to C. in C., H.F.)

Your 1326/5. Assume it is understood that FURIOUS has no facilities for hoisting Hurricanes with wings in position. Wings off O.K. (FURIOUS 1256/6 to Adty.)

My 2113/4 and 1644/5. Aircraft and personnel will be embarked at Birkenhead instead of Clyde. (D.N.A.D. 1257/6)

My 1256/6 Loading at Birkenhead will begin shortly after ship docks, aircraft arriving from Sealand with wings off. (D.N.A.D. 1303/6 to FURIOUS)

C. in C., H.F. 1119/5. Valve due arrive Liverpool 0630/7. (A.S.Devonport 1835/6 to Adty.)

Submarines

USK
TRIDENT — USK to patrol off Brest, TRIDENT south of Belle Isle to cover approach to St.Nazaire (V.A.S. 1021/6) USK position, proceeding to Plymouth (C. in C., W.A. 1120/6)

SEAWOLF — To be transferred from 3rd to 6th S/M Flotilla being temporarily attached to 5th S/M Flotilla. (V.A.S. 1153/6 to S. 3. S. 5, S.6.,)

Attack on Submarines by Surface Vessels — Request Admty. *1710/26/10 may be cancelled as from 2000/7/11. (V.A.S. 1217/6 to Admty.)
* Re surface vessels not to attack submarines unless identified as hostile.

0.22 }
0.23 } — See Operations (ADMIRAL SCHEER)

TRIDENT — My 1504/5 is cancelled by V.A.S. 1021/6 to TRIDENT. Alternative patrol postion for TRIDENT in the vicinity of 047° 10' N. 006° 32' W., is also cancelled. (Capt.(S) 2 1429/6 to TRIDENT and TUNA)

/TAKU.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Submarines-Contd.

TAKU	Reports at 0238/2/11 in position 46° 54' N., 03° 50' W., obtained 3 certain hits on large tanker steering 020° from 800 yard range. Eight minutes later nothing visible but pronounced smell of oil present. A/S patrol seen within 10 miles of Belle Island and Ile de Groix. (V.A.S. 1614/6 to Admty.)
SUNFISH	Escorted by THIRLMERE leaves 099° Muckle Flugga 7 miles at 1700/7/11 and proceeds to Rosyth. (A.C.O.S. 1616/6)
Greenock Area	Movements (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1623/6 to Admty.)
Positions and Movements	0700/7. (V.A.S. 1647/6)
WILK	My 1011/3* To be transferred from 3rd to 9th submarine Flotilla (V.A.S. 1743/6) * WILK and other S/M's transferred to 6th Flotilla.
5th S/M Flotilla	1202/4* for 10/11 read 7/11 (V.A.S. 1746/6) * Date from which V.A.S assumes operational control of 5th S/M Flotilla.
SWORDFISH	Intend sailing at 0800/7 for patrol off Ushant. Proceeding submerged by day. Routed via 045° 51' N., 005° 31' W., (Capt. (S.) 5. 1755/6 to V.A.S., Admty C. in C., Portsmouth) Leaves Portsmouth at 0800/7 to patrol off Brest, keeping W of a line 180° from Ushant and N. of 045° N. (C. in C., Portsmouth, 1853/6 to Admty.)
UNIQUE	In W.2 and S.3 (C. in C., Portsmouth, 1853/6 to Admty.)

/Norma Roof.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

British Air Activity

Air Reconnaissance	No air reconnaissance during the night S.A. 9. will be flown at 0800. (C. in C., Nore, 0639/6)
A/S Escort to 1st B.C. and REPULSE In search for ADMIRAL SCHEER	Cancel my 0342/6. F.O.C. 1st B.C. 2230/5 and 2235/5 and C. in C., H.F., 0125/6. Two Hudson aircraft proceeding to 08 30 position to give A/S escort to F.O.C. 1st B.C. Sqd. and REPULSE till relieved by Sunderland about 1000. (C. in C., Rosyth 0708/6 to F.O.C. 1 B.C.S., REPULSE)
S.16 B S.A. 2 S.A. 3	Cancelled this p.m. and S.A.I.E. this a.m. (C. in C., Rosyth 1332/6)
S.T.1. S.T.2.	Commence at 0815 and 1430/7 respectively (R.N.A.S. Stornoway 1355/6)
M/V Attacked	At 1310/6 Aircraft gunned and fired Torpedoes at one 10,000 ton M.V. in 48° 19' N., 4° 52' W., Torpedoes passed ½ length astern of ship. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth, 1500/6 to Admty.)
Special Searches	For 7/11. (C. in C., Rosyth 1508/6, 2016/6 and 2302/6)
S. 16 B	My 1332. Now being flown. (C. in C., Rosyth 1626/6)
Attack on Enemy Aircraft by H.M.Ships in Harbour	Air Ministry 0930/6. Consider reasons in my 1925/16/10 for H.M.Ships opening fire on aircraft unless recognised as friendly still hold good, and that procedure proposed in a.m. 0009/25/10 is most necessary. Reasons. (C. in C., Rosyth 1717 and 2235/6 to Adty.)
Scapa	Admty. 1534/16/10 and Air Ministry 1905/19/10. Request consideration of return to Skitton of Flight of 232 Sqdn. mentioned in Air Ministry A.327/19/10 (A.C.N.S. H. 1850/6 to Air Ministry)

/Horns Reef.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

British Air Activity-Contd.

Rosyth

Air Escorts for 7/11. (C. in C., Rosyth 1920/6)

Horns Reef Offensive Patrol

As in my 0040/3/10, will be extended tomorrow into Skaggerak as far as 8° East if cloud cover permits. (C. in C., Rosyth 2240/6 to Adty.)

Convoy C.W. 16

Available aircraft of Nos 53 and 59 Squadrons to bomb coastal battery positions between Calais and Ambleteuse from 1930 to 2100 during passage of convoy C.W. 16 through Straits of Dover. (H.Q.C.C. 1140/6)

Enemy torpedo aircraft may operate against Convoy C.W. 16 which will be in 50° 35' N 0° 40' W., at 0800/7. Carry out CH/G2/24/10 (Torpedo) on 7/11 and 8/11. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1637/6)

At 1300 today two MAAS Class Destroyers and three Torpedo Boats were reported moving North from Calais. They may either enter a harbour on Dutch coast or else be returning to a German port.
Despatch one aircraft 53 Squadron at Fist Light 7th November to look for these ships between Dunkirk and Texel providing cloud cover sufficient. Reports by W/T (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1740/6 to Detling)

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy S.L.52.
NALON

Enemy aircraft attacking convoy CHILD. My position 54° 4' N. 16° 1' W. (S.L. Convoy 1022/6)

NALON.

NALON bombed in 054° 00' N. 015° 38' W. All hands rescued by VISCOUNT. May possibly remain aflost with valuable cargo of copper. Request instructions. (DUNNOTTAR CASTLE 1145/6).

NALON.

British, 7222 tons. Your 1145/6. VISCOUNT is to rejoin Convoy. Tugs are being sent to NALON. (C.in C. W.A. 1511/6, to DUNNOTTAR CASTLE)

Sailed tugs ENGLISHMAN and THAMES to assistance of NALON in position 54° 00' N. 15° 38' W. at 1146/6. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1557/6).

My 1545/6. H.M.S. MAN-O-WAR is to proceed to stand by NALON bombed and abandoned with valuable cargo in 054° 00' N. 015° 38' W. Tugs are being sent. (C.in C. W.A. 1553/6 to STELLA CAPELLA,etc).

Pembroke bombed.

Pembroke Dock bombed this morning, no damage to Admiralty Personnel or property, one unexploded bomb touching No. 30 tank at Llanion, all precautions being taken (N.O.I.C. Milford H., 1104/6)

My 1104/6 unexploded bomb on vicinity of oil tank has been removed. (F.O.I.C. Milford H., 1804/6).

TRANIO.

Harwich Departure Tug MURIA at 1405 to assistance of H.M. Trawler TRANIO. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1417/6).

VANITY.

1 Aircraft 27° 10' N. 2° 35' W. (VANITY 1435/6.)

My 1435 JU88. (VANITY 1453/6).

Faroes.

My 1324/6 (Sighting of unidentified a/c over Faroes) Aircraft identified as Germam twin engine monoplane. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1500/6).

VIMIERA.

Your 1658/5 (Torpedo attack on VIMIERA by enemy. a/c) Request you will indicate type of aircraft which made this attack.

/ SOUTHAMPTON ....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

Southampton. — 2 H.E. bombs one unexploded dropped by E/A 1500/6 30 feet from head of No.4 dry dock. No damage to ships or to dock so far ascertained. Dock unusable pending disposal of bomb which is in hand. Four civilians injured. Slight damage Pirelli's cable works by another H.E. but output not likely to be affected. (P.O.I.C. Southampton, 1650/6.)

OLGA S. (OLGA S.) — British, 2252 tons. Position 55 58 N. 658 W. OLGA S. attacked by planes. (? 1708/6).

Convoy Agent. (F.N. even) — 1 Enemy A/c shadowing Convoy Agent bearing 090° 20,000 feet. My position 52.11 N., 1.54 E. (WALLACE, 1750/6).

BLACKFLY. — HELP, my position 230° Noss Head 10 miles. (BLACKFLY 1818/6)

Convoy W.N.31 CLAN MACKINLAY HARBOROUGH — Help 'Rusty' (Odd No. WN Convoy) 58.37 N., 2.52 W. (HASTINGS, 1819/6)

Enemy A/C attacking with bombs. (HASTINGS 1820/6.)

Fighters left for "Rusty" (Odd No.WN Convoy). (Scapa W/T, 1824/6)

Tugs BUCCANEER and ABEILLE 21 are being sent to assist. (A.C.O.S. to HASTINGS, 1849/6)

Enemy Bombing, my position 58.37 N., 2.52 W. (HASTINGS, 1850/6).

2 ships hit and burning. (HASTINGS, 1856/6).

HARBOROUGH — British 5415 tons. My position latitude Noss Head 9.1 miles S.S. HARBOROUGH on fire and abandoned after bomb attack sinking very slowly. Have on board 29 survivors. Salvage probabilities good. (GLEANER, 2032/6, to A.C.O.S., C.in C. Rosyth).

Tell tug to tow HARBOROUGH to Scapa and to report expected time of arrival Hoxa Gate. (A.C.O.S. 2341/6 to GLEANER)

/ CLAN MC.KINLEY
HARBOROUGH .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

CLAN MC.KINLAY HARBOROUGH	Convoy W.N. 31 was attacked at 1813/6 in position 58° 35' N. 2° 53' W. by enemy aircraft. CLAN MC.KINLAY 6365 tons hit and now presumed sunk. Thirteen Lascars from crew landed at Wick. HARBOROUGH 5415 tons hit and one fire now in tow of tugs BUCCANEER BANDIT and ABEILLE 21 proceeding to Scapa. Attack carried out by three aircraft. The enemy apparently approached at very low altitude as no R.D.F. indication was given. Fighter aircraft in the immediate vicinity saw outline of ships in convoy but no enemy aircraft. (A.C.O.S. 1031/7 to Admty.)
Unknown Ship.	55° 58' N. 06° 58' W. attacked by plane. (T.O.R. 1825/6).
Campbeltown Bombed.	Low level bombing and machine gun attack on Campbeltown carried out by 1 or 2 aircraft at 1830/6. 1 dead 2 seriously injured. (N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 2135/6).

/Thursday...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Dover

Routine sweeps to noon/6. Two mines exploded and 4 explosive cutters found 3-6 cables west of line joining Nos. 1 and 4 Buoys. (V.A.Dover 1211/6 to Admty.)

Milford Haven

Cancel my 1401/1. Port now open using original approach channel. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1220/6 to Admty.)

Minelaying

Propose to start A mark I minelaying operation with M.T.B's in near future. It is understood that proposal to mine channel on either side inner Ruytingen emanates from you. Request information as to whether this is still considered desirable and whether you have any other proposal. French and Belgian ports cannot be mined at present. (C. in C., Nore, 1314/6 to V.A.Dover)

Operation B.S. 45

Completed (TEVIOT BANK, 1503/6 to Admty.)

ELGIN

ELGIN detonated a mine probably acoustic ½ cable on her starboard beam 4½ cables, 120° from Sunk Light Vessel. No serious damage reported. In tow of GOSSAMER. Tug KENIA to assist. NIGER and SPEEDWELL standing by. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1559/6 to C. in C., Nore.)
One mine destroyed 51° 55' N., 01° 40.5' E by fleet sweepers and ELGIN damaged by acoustic mine 51° 50.5' N., 01° 35.5' E.
No casualties and ELGIN in harbour. (F.O.I.C Harwich 1921/6 to C. in C., Nore)

Plymouth

Since my 1526/5 four mines exploded. One in air 0636° 5 cables east end breakwater. Three spontaneous no ships near. 0910 132° 7.2 cables breakwater fort. ("KANGO HAMMER" operating course 196° explosion abeam distant 14 cables.
1323 090° 80 yards east end breakwater.
1325 185° 1.9 miles breakwater light.
(C. in C., W.A. 1718/6 to Admty.)

/Falmouth.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

Falmouth	
JUNIPER **JAGUAR**	Mines suspected, do not enter port until signalled.
	Port closed owing to suspected mines. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 0710/6)
	Red mine exploded, suspected acoustic 175° St. Anthony 5½ cables. Moored mine exploded in sweep 191½° St. Anthony 9 cables (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1827/6 to Admty.)
Firth of Forth	2 mines exploded today- one red 56° 01' 25" N., 03° 04' 12" W., and one by motor fishing boats 56° 12' N., 02° 41' 30" W., (approx) (C. in C., Rosyth 2200/6 to Admty)
Bristol Channel	Red mine exploded by sweep 250° distant 2.5 miles from Nash Point Lighthouse. (TRANSYLVANIA 2228/6 to Admty)
GIRL HELEN **Sunk**	Dan laying drifter GIRL HELEN exploded mine 036° 1600 yards from North Tyne Pier Light at 1026. Now sunk in position 017° 1750 yards North Tyne Pier Light. Casualties one missing, three injured. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1121/6)
	My 1121/6. Amend position of wreck of Drifter GIRL HELEN 00 10.75 cables 349°. from Tyne North Pier Light. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1107/7)
SEVRA **Sunk**	H.M.T.SEVRA mined and sunk position 154° St. Anthony 5½ cables. No casulaties. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1231/6)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Brest	3 destroyers at 0755/6 (St. Eval 1045/6) Convoy of 4 M/V's 3 miles North of Ile Vierge at 0801/6. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth 1245/6)
Calais	5 Vessels, probably destroyers or T.B's passed Calais eastwards at 1340 (V.A.Dover 1352/6 to Admty.) 2 MAAS class destroyers and 3 T.B's. The 2 destroyers are believed to have come from Brest. (D.D.I.C. 1547/6)
E-Boats	PEONY sailed in company with SALVIA reports when five miles North of Z at 1940/1 sighted proper three star recognition signal for British Submarines on surface bearing red 120° followed by proper two colour British Aircraft Recognition Signal immediately above. Enemy aircraft and probably E-Boats in vicinity T.O.O. 1631/4/11. (C. in C., Nore 1730/6 to Admty.)
Eastern Skagerrak Oslo Fiord Zone C.1.	Your 1817/4. Report on Coastal Traffic. Sank 2 M/V's (STURGEON 1811/6)
Obrestad	Sinking Ship observed off Obrestad. (TUGELA, Recd. 1528/6)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

6.11.1940
Wednesday

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS

BUXTON	My 1234/6. Has developed further defect and must remain in harbour. (N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F. 1446/6 to F.O.C. 3rd B.S.)
ALFRED JONES	(British, 5013 tons) Arrived Clyde 29/10 with considerable damage forward. (C. in C W.A. 1644/6 to C. in C., S.A.)
M.G.B. 40	Details of damage. (Belfort 1645/5 to C. in C., W.A.)
ENCOUNTER UTMOST	FORESTER reports ENCOUNTER and UTMOST in collision at 1225/6 in 277° Spartel 137 miles. FORESTER escorting both ships to Gibraltar, E.T.A. 0800/7. ENCOUNTER has minor damage to stern. UTMOST casing damaged and pressure hull dented. Both require docking. No casualties reported. (F.O.C.N.A. 1720/6 to Admty.)
MELROSE ABBEY	My 1517/6. Ship out of sight. Have still not gained contact. (OTTAWA 1755/6 to C in C. W.A.) STELLA CAPELLA has been despatched to escort ship. (C. in C., W.A. 1953/6 to OTTAWA) See U-boat campaign.
WIVERN	Serious damage to main turbine gear. Consider due to sabotage. (WIVERN 2322/6 to Adty.)
LEWANT	(Polish, 1942 tons) Received at 2140. LEWANT stranded on rock in Bangor Bay. send tugs. (Portpatrick Radio)

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys. Situation at 2000/6. (C.in C. W.A. 1510/6).

H.X.85. Cancel my 2032/5. H.X. 85 to return to Sydney C.B. Ships which cannot be accommodated there should proceed to Halifax. (D.T.D. to RAJPUTANA, etc., 1135/6) BUXTON with H.X.85 (see America and West Indies).

O.G.46. Whale oil carrier HECTORIA. A/C trawlers ERIN and HAARLEM to be included in O.G.46 for Gibraltar. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1320/6)

S.C.9. MALLOW to join (C.in C. W.A. 1015/6). Your 1015/6. Position. Sent back ex French CAPO OLMO unescorted to Oban to meet S.C.9.

C.W.16. Passed Dover 2245. Enemy coastal batteries fired about 14 rounds, some fell inland. No damage reported. (V.A. Dover, 2302/6)

S.L.52. SALADIN and SHIKARI to join. Position. (C.in C. W.A. 1033/6).

H.X.84. Position, escort JERVIS BAY)
S.C.10. " " FOLKESTONE)
W.S.4A. " " CORNWALL)

(D.T.D. 0550/6, re C.in C. H.F. 0125/6)

S.L.53 To steer for 37.30 N., 20° 00' W., and thence towards Gibraltar. (D.T.D., 0010/6 to ARAWA).

S.L.53 Slow. To turn to course 080° until further orders. (D.T.D., 0019/6)

S.H.X.86)
S.C.11.) Your 0057/6 and 0056/6. Holding until further orders. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 0308 Z/6).

O.B. 239, 240, 241. Ships in O.B.239, 240, 241 bound for South Atlantic ports will leave convoys in 25° W. and are to be routed East of the Azores. (D.T.D., 2348/6).

B.H.X.86. To return to Bermuda. (D.T.D. to MONTCLARE, 0053/6).

H.X.86. To return to Halifax. (D.T.D. to VOLTAIRE, 0056/6).

S.C.11. Not to sail until further orders. (D.T.D., 0057/6)

O.B.240. Not to sail until further orders. (C.in C. W.A. 0103/6)

/ H.G.46
S.L.F. 53) .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys. Situation at 2000/6. (C.in C. W.A. 1510/6).

H.X.85. Cancel my 2032/5. H.X. 85 to return to Sydney C.B. Ships which cannot be accommodated there should proceed to Halifax. (D.T.D. to RAJPUTANA, etc., 1135/6) BUXTON with H.X.85 (see America and West Indies).

O.G.46. Whale oil carrier HECTORIA. A/C trawlers ERIN and HAARLEM to be included in O.G.46 for Gibraltar. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1320/6)

S.C.9. MALLOW to join (C.in C. W.A. 1015/6). Your 1015/6. Position. Sent back ex French CAPO OLMO unescorted to Oban to meet S.C.9.

C.W.16. Passed Dover 2245. Enemy coastal batteries fired about 14 rounds, some fell inland. No damage reported. (V.A. Dover, 2302/6)

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H.X.84.
S.C.10.
W.S.4A. Position, escort JERVIS BAY)
" " FOLKESTONE)
" " CORNWALL)

(D.T.D. 0550/6, re C.in C. H.F. 0125/6)

S.L.53 To steer for 37.30 N., 20° 00' W., and thence towards Gibraltar. (D.T.D., 0010/6 to ARAWA).

S.L.53 Slow. To turn to course 080° until further orders. (D.T.D., 0019/6)

S.H.X.86)
S.C.11.) Your 0657/6 and 0056/6. Holding until further orders. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 0308 Z/6).

O.B. 239, 240, 241. Ships in O.B.239, 240, 241 bound for South Atlantic ports will leave convoys in 25° W. and are to be routed East of the Azores. (D.T.D., 2348/6).

B.H.X.86. To return to Bermuda. (D.T.D. to MONTCLARE, 0053/6).

H.X.86. To return to Halifax. (D.T.D. to VOLTAIRE, 0056/6).

S.C.11. Not to sail until further orders. (D.T.D., 0057/6)

O.B.240. Not to sail until further orders. (C.in C. W.A. 0103/6)

/ H.O.46)
S.L.F. 53) .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping. (Continued)

H.G. 46 / S.L.F. 53 — Informing RENOWN of their positions and routes. (D.T.D. 0035/6).

H.X.84. — Ships in CORNISH CITY's Convoy attacked p.m./5 to steer for position 200 miles 185° from last position given in standard route. (C.in C. W.A., 2107/6, to G.B.M.S.1)

Independent Ships, Dark Hours. — My 1340/29 re date of arrival in U.K. of independently routed fast ships from abroad. Cancel words "before the date". Vesca telegrams regarding these ships should state date of arrival at Meridian of 10° West and not at destination. Ships concerned will now be allowed to enter Clyde Belfast and Liverpool during dark hours. 2115/6 for D.T.D. (983).

Independent Sailings Suspended. — Until further orders all independent sailings from U.K., and between U.K., North American Atlantic ports and Eastern Atlantic ports north of and including Sierra Leone are to be suspended. (D.T.S., 1220/6).

Rescue Ships. — Your 1228/5. Concur. (D.T.D., 1056/6, to N.C.S.O. Methil).

ADDA. — C.in C. W.A. 1305/4 para 3. FYTCHLEY and EXMOOR are now detailed for escort of s.s. ADDA. Request BULLDOG may be sailed independently for Skaale Fiord Faroes now. My 2322 not to C.in C. W.A. refers. (C.in C. H.F. 0059/6 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).

Operations Against Vichy French.

Repatriations. — French ships SOUTHLAND, SANFRANCISCO, WYOMING and OREGON are proceeding to U.K. from U.S.A., and passing through 055° 35' N. 007° 00' W. It is possible that these ships may endeavour to make for Casablanca or other French ports and if encountered off their route they are to be sent in. (F.O.C.N.A. 1231/6).

VICTORIA. — My 1055/28. Request reply concerning German guarantee and destination of VICTORIA. (Hd. of M., to N.A. Madrid, 1332/6)

CUBA. — Asking if any armed guard is on board. (C.in C. S.A. to DRAGON, MORETON BAY, 1643/6).
Your 1636/1 and subsequent signals. DRAGON, MORETON BAY and French ship CUBA expected arrive Freetown daylight 7/11. Request instructions for disposal of 1216 sailors on board CUBA. No accommodation

/ on ...

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

CUBA. (contd.)

on shore at Sierra Leone at present. (C.in C. S.A. to Admty. 1747 /6)

French Prisoners

My 1929/30. French N.A. states he has no official reply but that he has been informed there will be no reply as French Government will in no circumstances exchange French Emissaries. They will exchange all British F.A.A. and R.A.F. personnel captured.
I have urged him again re-open matter but he has refused. Submit H.M. Ambassador tries it on Pietri, new French Ambassador expected shortly. (N.A. Madrid, 1641/6 to Admty.)

INDO CHINOIS Interception

My 2017/22/10 and your 1104/29/10, Gov. Gold Coast has replied to effect that repatriation through Gold Coast is not practicable. (Reasons)
Only alternative appears to be to send passengers by neutral ship to Port Bouet direct and this is considered much the best solution from all points. Following neutral ships capable of carrying these passengers will be passing Freetown southbound in the near future. Portuguese LOURENCO MARQUES, COLONIAL and CUBANGO, Spanish CABO BUENA ESPERANZA. Request arrangements be made for one to call at Freetown to take passengers (numbers).
C.in C. S.A. 1707/6 to Adty.)

North Atlantic.

Casablanca.

Your 1915/5, re agent leaving for Casablanca. Details of information required. (D.N.I., 1259/6 to N.C.S.O. Lisbon)

SHEFFIELD.

Arrived Gibraltar a.m./6 from Azores Patrol. (D.O.R. 7/11)

ENCOUNTER } UTMOST }

In collision 277° Spartel 137 miles at 1225/6. FORESTER escorting to Gibraltar. Both require docking. (F.O.C.N.A. 1720/6)

ARGUS.

S.O. Force H. 1146/5 and ARGUS 2031/5. Pilots not had any previous carrier experience. Air Staff consider moon-light take-off should not be attempted. (Air Ministry to Admty. 1920/6)

RENOWN.

RENOWN, FORESTER, ENCOUNTER, GALLANT left 0400/6 in accordance with Admty. 0018/6, (S.O.I., Gib., 0530/6).

/ Destroyers .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Destroyers. Your 1240/5. Regretted your request cannot be conceded. Hoped revised movements of ROYAL SOVEREIGN will simplify your destroyer problem. (D.O.D. (F) to F.O.C.N.A. 1624/6).

SAVOIE Your 0748/2. My information gives date of departure from Casablanca as. SAVOIE as 27/10. (F.O.C.N.A. to Adty. 1056/6).

DESPATCH) Date of arrival at Gibraltar.
ARGUS) (DESPATCH, 1542/6)

Force H. ARK ROYAL, BERWICK, GLASGOW and destroyers, with PASTEUR, arrived Gibraltar p.m./6 from U.K.
Flag of V.A. Force H transferred to ARK ROYAL on arrival (D.O.R. 7/11)

Italian S/M's at Tangier. Admty. to N.A. Madrid 2250/5.
In conversations which I have held with "Governor" Tangier he has not contended that Italian submarines (a) and (b) have a right to stay in this port until they are in a position to navigate under water. (Consul-Gen., Tangier, 1334/6 to Admty.)

My 1357/5. Chief of Naval Staff states second S/M damaged extent not yet known. Minister of Marine unwilling to express opinion on exact interpretation of what degree of seaworthiness necessary but apparently agrees privately with us. He refused to guarantee me news of time granted, as matters for Minister for Foreign Affairs, with whom Ambassador now dealing.
First S/M apparently CALVI class or later. Second smaller.
(N.A. Madrid, 1927/6).

My telegram 675. Andre tells me that (?crew of) submarine B were hastily buying provisions in town this morning. Intention may be to slip out of Tangier during night of 6th - 7th. Submarine "A" has been seriously damaged and several metres of her plates have been removed for repair purposes. Her Captain has asked to be allowed large TITAN port crane.
(Consul Gen. Tangier, 2015/6 to F.O.)

My 2015/6 to D.N.I.
Have received further evidence submarine B will possibly leave

/ Tangier ...

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

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/ Tangier ...

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Continued)

Tangier during tonight, time unknown. Consider probability is sufficiently strong to warrant especially sharp watch being kept by your patrol in Straits. Current belief is that she may make for Cadiz using dry dock but also said Ceuta. (Consul Gen. Tangier, 2245/6 to Admiral, Gibraltar).

South Atlantic.

HERMES — Admty. 1825/4. HERMES to remain Simonstown for present and may be used to intercept and bring in ships mentioned in my 1805/6 and Admty. 1002/5 and 1156/4 (C.in C. S.A. to N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2025 N/6)

Shipping Routes. — Your 1337/6, re ships routed independently for U.K. from South American ports. Reply, yes. (D.T.D. 2116/6, to C.in C. S.A.)

French Ships Madagascar. — Interception orders. (C.in C. S.A., 1805/6) See French Merchant Ships.

Troop Movement. — Your 1605/5 ATHLONE CASTLE is required back in U.K. urgently, but if used as proposed could not be available in time. Suggest alternatively that either STIRLING CASTLE or WARWICK CASTLE at present in W.S.4.A. be used.
Agree that LLANDAFF CASTLE be ordered to return to Durban.
(D.S.T. 2126/6, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)

Mediterranean.

Operation. — Your 1131/5. Concur that S.O. Force H decides date and conducts operation in Mediterranean. (D.O.D.(F) to C.in C. Med., 1055/6)

Your 1412/5. It is intended you should specify date and time of R.V. so that sailing date of M.T. ships from U.K. can be determined. (Provisional date).
(D.O.D.(F) to S.O. Force H, 1656/6)
Your 1656/6. Time proposed. (V.A. Force H, 2231/6).

/Italian Hydrophones. .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Italian Hydrophones.	C.in C. Med. 1741/5. Further interrogation of prisoner reveals object of Italian S/M GONDAR's mission was to lay hydrophones on submerged buoys 10 miles from harbour entrance of Alexandria with listening posts on Cyrenaica Coast. Information believed reliable. (Capt. O.S., Alexandria: 1251/6).
RORQUAL	On completion of 2nd operation ordered in my 1021/29, to establish patrol within 40 miles of Misurata. (Capt. S.1, 1427/6).
Fleet Positions.	Fleet will be operating in force in vicinity of Crete 7/11, Ionian Sea 8-9/11, south and west of Malta 10/11, and afterwards in Ionian Sea. (Capt. S.1, 1721/6, to S/M's on Patrol).
Air Reports.	H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1201/6, 1203/6. No naval items.
Fulmers.	Asking when they leave Takoradi for Egypt. (5 S.L. to N.C.S.O. Takoradi, 1903/6)
Crete.	Proposal of Metaxas to withdraw Greek troops from Crete. Greek Navy could convoy but British naval assistance would be appreicated. (Brit. Mil. Mission, Athens, to W.O., 1810/6)
	Situation Report to 0800/6. C.in C. worried at increased enemy air action yesterday.. Kastoria bombed 11 times. (M.A. Athens, to W.O., 1825/6). Re employment of military forces. (Brit. Mil. Mission, to C.in C. M.E., 1825/6).
Small Craft, Greece.	Admty. 2029/1 Re provision of A/S, M/S and A/P craft. No hasty action should be taken except to provide small craft asked for in my 1209/5. Neither crews equipment or armament are yet available for large number of auxiliary vessels and it is essential that both hulls and machinery are in good condition. (C.in C. Med., 0945/6 to N.A. Athens)

/ Malta Air Report .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Malta Air Report.

Malta situation report from 1700/5 to 1700/6. All times G.M.T. 2105-2132, 1 raider S.79 approached island from North coast. 1 Hurricane up. Fighter engaged at 12000 ft. Bombs dropped on Senxlea point and Grand harbour. No military damage - no casualties. Enemy rear gunner silenced and probably aircraft damaged. 0552, 1 CR42 machine gunned Sunderland (230 Squadron) in Marsaxlokk Bay and damaged port main plane and petrol tanks. No fighters up. No casualties. 0645-1520 Sunderland 230 Squadron reconnaissance Ionian Sea area - Malta. Nil report. 1000-1415 Blenheim reconnaissance gulf and harbour of Taranto to report enemy shipping. 3 cruisers 10 miles west of Gallipoli (Gulf of Taranto) appeared to be exercising. 1 M/V 5-6 miles out - 2,000 tons steering north for Cesareo. 3 M/V's of 4,000, 3,000, 1,000 tons 5 miles - steering 045 degs. making for same place. 1 destroyer 10 miles from Taranto - course 210 degs. - speed 30 knots. 2 M.T.B's leaving Taranto - speed 30 knots. Taranto Outer harbour - 3 battleships - 1 cruiser - 6 destroyers. Inner harbour - 6 cruisers - large number of destroyers and flying boats. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1720/6).

Informing Med. Fleet of air reconnaissance today. (V.A. Malta, 1755/6).

East Indies.

Raider Report.

Corrupt message received from Mombasa Radio at 2152Z/5, armed raider 2.26 N., 3.3 E., shelled (Colombo, 0211Z/6). Informing C.in C. E.A. and C.S.1, (D.D.I.C., 0652/6).

Air Squadrons.

A.402 6/11. From Brooke Popham. Your X.724 5/11. Please amplify proposals for stationing general reconnaissance squadrons in Indian Ocean especially suggested bases. Desirable I should know at once in order to settle possible question of land protection of such bases with India before I leave Delhi early on 9/11. (A.H.Q., India, 1230/6).

/ S/M Report. ....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies. (Continued)

S/M Report. SSSS 3.13 S., 55.14 E., BARON HERRIES sighted S/M periscope 0(05 G.M.T. (Admiral, Colombo, 09252/6, to Admty.)

Land Operations "Canvas". My 1402/28/7. Discussion with forces Nairobi re plans for capture of a certain place and date. Code name for operation is "Canvas". Details of naval co-operation (C.in C. E.I., 1834 Z/6, to Admty.) See Operations Vol.

China.

Free French, Indo-China. My 1021/1. To co-ordinate activities of Free French movements in Far East, early decisions on following points required. (a) to (h). (C.in C. China, 0413 Z/6)

Gunboats. Admty. 1859/22. CRICKET departed Singapore 6/11. TARANTULA has defects (date ready) (C.in C. China, 0433 Z/6).

LIVATHO. Admty. 2005/28/10 and 1919/4/11. Consider advisable to permit Greek ship LIVATHO to continue trading between Singapore and Saigon. Request approval of Greek authorities. (C.in C. China 0441Z/6).

ILE DE FRANCE Repatrioes Your 0851/31. Proposal to book for Lourenco Marques approved. (Hd. of M. to C.in C. China, 1052/6).

Ammunition. My 1557/31/8. Intended to re-establish a Far Eastern Reserve of ammunition, approx. two-thirds at Trincomalee and one-third Singapore. Arrangements. (D.T.S.D. 1053/6).

Vichy French Ships. Admiral Terraux informs me that he has received permission from Vichy to send from Saigon two French ships to Hong Kong and one to Singapore. I have told him that I cannot sanction this until British ships are allowed to visit Saigon. (C.in C. China, 04532/6 to Admty.)

Japanese S/M. Your 1012/26 Re loss of Japanese Submarine I.67. In view of date of loss and pro-Axis declaration, no further expression of sympathy is considered necessary. (Hd. of M. 1148/6 to N.A. Tokyo).

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

S/M Report.
Panama.

My 0832/4. No further information but Colon reports Master of Dutch Ship MANTE claims nearly colliding with unidentified submarine on surface off Cape Mala 0400 R, 2/11. Submarine exhibited white light. No United States Submarine was in vicinity (C 2) (S.O.I. Kingston, 1140/6, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

BUXTON

Ready for sea 0001/7. As part of Convoy H.X.85 will be anchored off Bell Island. Proposal re trials (N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. 1234/6).

CAMERONIAN
DUCHESS OF ATHOL

CAMERONIAN sailed from New York 0400 G.M.T., 5/11 prior to receipt of your 1220/6 (suspension of independent railings)
DUCHESS OF ATHOL sailed from Montreal 3/11. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1728/6 to Admty.)

Your 1234/6. Trial approved. Convoy H.X. 85 now proceeding Sydney Cape Breton and Halifax. See also my 1726/6. (F.O. 3 B.S. 2136/6)

Shipping
Suspension.

My 1011/6 and your 1220/6, suspension of independent sailings between N. and E. Atlantic ports north of Sierra Leone. Have instructed Jamaica to suspend loading and sailing of fruit ships and report situation. Loss of cargo anticipated if sailing delayed more than 3 days. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1401/6 to Admty.)

U.S. Bases.

U.S. base, Bermuda, and Governor's telegram 272 of 4/11 to S. of S. for Colonies. Propose following 2 alternatives for getting over local and other objectives to permanent American flying boat base in Great Dump in addition to that in Castle Harbour. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1301/6).

Australia.

Officer for U.S.
Mission.

At request of Australian Minister Washington and with approval of Commonwealth Government Commander Burrel R.A.N. late Director of Plans is proceeding to Washington to be attached for a few weeks to Australian Legation Staff.
(A.C.N.B., 1061Z/6, to Admty.)

New Zealand.

BATORY.

Arrived Wellington 2240/5. (S.O.I. Wellington, 0231Z/6).

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

TOLTECA
ORINOCO
IDARWALD
RHEIN
PHRYGIA

Following information received from Navy Department: Mexican M.V. TOLTECA (German owned) sailed a.m. 5/11 from Vera Cruz for Villa Hermose and Frontera. Following German Merchant Vessels at Bret are carrying out all preparations for departure by loading extra supplies and restricting crews to ships:- ORINOCO, IDARWALD, RHEIN, PHRYGIA. ORINOCO in particular has large quantities of foodstuff on board. (N.A. Washington, 1010/6).

SCHARNHORST

At Kobe. Intercepted Commerical message Shanghai to Hamburg suggests ship will sail in January (D.S. 429)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

VILLE DE TAMATAVE
LINOIS
DALNY
VILLE DE ROUEN
LE CONTE DE LISLE

French ship VILLE de TAMATAVE likely to leave Madagascar 6th November for Dakar. LINOIS and DAINY to follow almost immediately and VILLE DE ROUEN and LE CONTE de LISLE later. Ships expected to pass at least 200 miles from Cape of Good Hope. If met, ships are to be sent in. Pass to all ships likely to be in vicinity and those leaving Cape during period which make it possible for them to meet.
(C.in C. S.A., 1805/6 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LAURENTIC, PATROCLUS. Survivors from the torpedoed ships H.M.S. LAURENTIC and H.M.S. PATROCLUS were landed at a northern port 6/11. They number 631 - 52 officers and 316 ratings from the LAURENTIC, and 33 officers and 230 ratings from the PATROCLUS. (The Times 7/11).

False report. Suspect ship torpedoed in position 055°, 32' N. 008° 28' W. BEAGLE in vicinity, request air co-operation, request planes forecast number of ships in portion bound for British West Coast ports who are now unescorted.
(ACTIVE, 0630/6, to C.in C. W.A.)

My 0630. Irish Sea Ships all present. Commodore reports there should be 14 Ships for West Coast Ports.
(ACTIVE, 0850/6).

My 0630. Plane reports all ships present. BEAGLE should rejoin convoy.
(ACTIVE 1005/6)

MELROSE ABBEY British 1908 tons. SSSS, position 51 40 N. 17 08 W.
(Valentia Radio, 0728/6)

Intercept, 51° 12' N., 17° 08' W. MELROSE ABBEY chased by submarine.
(Lands End Radio, 0742/6).

MELROSE ABBEY reported being chased by S/M in position 051° 12' N. 017° 08' W. at 0842/6. (C.in C. W.A. 0845/6 amended 0937/6).

SSSS 51° 05' N., 17° 32' W., MELROSE ABBEY, submarine appeared.
(Lands End Radio, 1116/6).

My 0845. MELROSE ABBEY reports submarine appeared against position 051° 05' N. 017° 32' W. at 1216.
(C.in C. W.A. 1231/6 to OTTAWA, HARVESTER).

Following in code from Landsend at 1315 (no indication of originator. Still being chased by submarine, have GARTBRATTAN crew aboard and damaged badly forward myself require assistance immediately position 51° 00' N., 17° 47' W. 1155/6.
(C.in C. W.A., 1327/6 to Admty.)
MELROSE ABBEY and GARTBRATTAN were in collision at 2113/5 about 360' W.S.W. of Slyne Head. (D.O.R. 6/11)

/ My 1231 .....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. (Continued)

Hunting submarine seen on surface in position 050° 54' N. 017° 37' W. no contact yet H.M.S. HARVESTER in company, MELROSE ABBEY in sight. Oil fuel remaining 38% (OTTAWA, 1517/6).

WELLAND is to escort convoy to Oban and await orders. STELLA CAPELLA and MAN-O-WAR proceed forthwith to assistance of MELROSE ABBEY in position 051° 05' N. 017° 32' W. at 1217/6.
(C.in C. W.A. 1545/6).

CLAN MACKINLAY — British, 6365 tons. Have survivors of CLAN MACKINLAY on board. Rejoining convoy. (BLACKFLY 2115/6 to C.in C. Rosyth)

Analysis. — To enable a full enalysis of all U-Boat attacks on Convoys to be completed, it is requested that all escort vessels in company with Convoys attacked may be ordered to forward a Track Chart, if available, of their movements from the time of the initial attack until completion of the subsequent search. (D. A/S.W. 1057/6)

Submarines Reported.

1400/5. — Local fishermen report (C.2) sighted submarine nationality unknown on surface about 1300 G.M.T. 5/11, 3 miles South Bugio (Desertas) proceeding East. (Consul, Funchal, 1012/6)
Informing S. and A., North Atlantic Stn., (F.O.C.N.A. 1413/6).

2010. — 56° N., 9.13 W., confirmed at 2010/6. (D.D.I.C. 2058/6)

2020.
2036. — By D/F at (a) 2020/6 and (b) 2036/6 Positions of two unknown units probable U-boats homeward bound to Lorient were approximately (a) 30 miles W. of Fastnet and (b) in about 50 degs 30' N. 10 degs.W. respectively. Both fixes unreliable. (D.D.I.C. 2140/6)

0106. — 56° N., 9° to 13° W., position indefinite (D.S. 428)

0319. — 58° to 59° N., 19° to 21° W., position indefinite (D.S. 428).

0826. — 51.40 N., 17.8 W. (MELROSE ABBEY chased) (D.S. 428)

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1519-1915 — 58° N. - 61° N., 17° - 23° W., indefinite position. (D.S. 428)

2209. — About 49.30 N., 8° W., indefinite position. (D.S. 429)

East Indies.

0925 Z. — 3.13 S., 55.14 E. (Colombo 0925 Z/6). See FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Panama. — S.O.I. Kingston 1140/6. See FOREIGN STATIONS.

Estimated U/B dispositions.

Italian - 1 may still be in Azores Area.
German - 1 was in 48° 54' N. 20° 09' W. at 0940/5.
1 was in 51° 40' N. 17° 08' W. at 0826/6.
1 was in about 54° 50' N. 12° 20'W. at 2027/5.
1 may be about 25 miles N. of Bloody Foreland.
1 was in area 56° N. between 9° and 13° W. at 0106/6.
1 was in area 58° to 60° N. 19° to 21° at 0319/6.
(D.D.I.C. 1309/6)

Reports, Cloud. — Any ship making a submarine distress message in Area one should whenever possible add the visibility and height of cloud base for the benefit of aircraft which may be sent out.
(Example) Message DH was not made by W/T.
(D.S.D. 1555/6 to C.B.M.S.)

Submarines Attacked.

1840. — Attacking firm contact in 50.57 N., 17.22 W. since 1840. Still in contact. (OTTAWA, 2241/6).

/ 0850 ....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. (Continued)

0850. By A/S.T. FANDANGO 54.51 N., 5.37 W., with d/c's (B.4) (D.S. 429)

By CLYDE 0800/17/10, about 540' W.N.W. of Bloody Foreland, attacked with 3 torpedoes, no explosions heard, A/S contact lost shortly afterwards. Again at 1441/18, on same patrol, sighted conning tower of U-boat breaking surface, but lost contact before attack could be carried out. (D.O.R. 7/11)

44

MOST SECRET

War Diary

7.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

WIVERN	WIVERN reports damage to her engines; which she believed to have been caused by sabotage.
A.M.C's in Northern Patrol	Until suitable replacements for A.M.C's or additional trawlers are available F.O.C.N.P. intends to employ the remaining A.M.C's on Northern Patrol only.
Town Class Destroyers	GEORGETOWN and CAMERON arrived at Belfast this morning from Canada.
Operation "White"	ARGUS, DESPATCH and 3 destroyers sailed from the Clyde this morning.
	FURIOUS and 3 destroyers arrived at Liverpool from Scapa this afternoon.
Channel Convoys	The 8 day cycle for Channel Convoys is not being maintained, principally on account of delay in loading and unloading of ships. Other factors tending to extend the cycle are delays due to weather and the limited number of escort vessels available.
Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER	Independent sailings from U.K. and between U.K; North American Atlantic ports and Eastern Atlantic ports north of and including Sierra Leone were resumed today.
	A.M.C's in Northern Patrol were this evening ordered to be redisposed to be under cover of forces with C. in C., H.F. or be otherwise given security.
	AUSTRALIA is remaining in the Clyde at 2 hours notice for the present.

/Attack on.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

7.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

Special Patrols were flown throughout daylight today North and West of the Faroes to 21° W. A cross over patrol 300 miles S.W. of Lands End was flown. Battles from Iceland covered and area to northward and westward of Iceland.

A sweep into the Skagerrak and thence to Horns Reef was carried out this morning. Nothing of importance was sighted.

Attack on Calais

Coastal Command aircraft last night bombed gun emplacements near Calais and the docks at Calais.

Wreckage

An Anson on A/S patrol observed an explosion in position 170° Harwich 10 miles at 1634 today. Wreckage of ship, two rafts, and one injured survivor were sighted. As the aircraft's signal to a naval unit was unsuccessful, a message was sent to base.

Enemy Air Activity

Attack on Convoy F.S.28

F.S. 28 was attacked this morning in the Thames Estuary. Fighters shot down 4 (including one dive bomber) and 4 further probable enemy planes. The following casualties occurred:-

EGRET
EGRET slightly damaged by splinters.

SS ASTROLOGER
SS ASTROLOGER (1673 tons) beached

SS DAGO II
SS DAGO II (1993 tons) Damaged Beached at the Nore.

SS DRACO
SS DRACO reported "in tow of another ship of convoy".

SS OXFORD
SS OXFORD (1893 tons) Bombed at 1221 16' E.N.E. Harwich. Fate unknown.

SS MELROSE ABBEY
(In collision with GARTBRATTAN 5/11) was bombed about 130 miles S.W. of Ireland this morning. Result not known.

SS HARBOROUGH
(Bombed 6/11) Arrived at Scapa today in tow.

/Attack on.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

7.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Attack on Convoy F.N.28

Convoy F.N. 28 escorted by WALLACE and WESTMINSTER was bombed this morning 13 miles N.N.E. of Cromer, but no ships were damaged, though trawler GREEN FLY had 2 casualties and slight damage from the fire of our own ships.

Faroes

There have been several reports recently of unidentified aircraft flying over Sydero. Today one was definitely identified as enemy

Mining

SS HERLAND Sunk

SS HERLAND (2645 tons) of Convoy F.S. 28 (see Enemy Air Activity) was mined and sunk in the Thames Estuary (Daily Operations Report)

POULMIC Sunk

POULMIC (Free French Mine-watching Vessel) was mined and sunk off Plymouth breakwater this evening.

REED Sunk

H.M.Drifter REED was mined and sunk off the Thames Estuary this afternoon ~~(Daily Operations Report)~~

WILLIAM WESNEY Sunk

M/STrawler WILLIAM WESNEY was mined and sunk off Orfordness this morning.

Enemy Minelaying

Enemy aircraft minelaying probably took place last night off East Anglia and in the Thames Estuary.

Mining of Kiel Canal

The Air Ministry state that the successful mining of the Kiel Canal may be accepted. Reports are to the effect that owing to ships having been sunk in the Canal navigation is complicated and slow.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

7.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

After attack by gunfire from MILFORD and A/S bomb from DEVONSHIRE's Walrus, French submarine PONCELET surfaced and surrendered and then scuttled herself this eving on the west edge of the Gulf of Guinea. It appears from PONCELET's log that she fired two torpedoes, apparently at MILFORD who felt a shock; the second torpedo stuck in the tube.

MORETON BAY and DRAGON arrived at Freetown today with CUBA.

Mediterranean

Operation "Coat"

Force H (ARK ROYAL, SHEFFIELD and destroyers) in company with Force F (BARHAM, BERWICK, GLASGOW, GRIFFIN, GREYHOUND, GALLANT, to reinforce the Medtn. Fleet) left Gibraltar today f/o the central Mediterranean.

RAF Attack Valona

R.A.F. machines working from Eleusis bombed Valona today and destroyed one and probably damaged other Italian aircraft. One ship in harbour was hit, another bomb falling very close.

Australia

SS CAMBRIDGE (10846 tons) was sunk by an explosion, probably a mine, 6 miles East of Wilson's Promontory, S.E. Australia, this afternoon.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of United Kingdom.

Policy. /7. (D.C.1205/7).

Northern Patrol.

Until suitable replacements for A.M.C. or additional trawlers, are available I intend to employ remaining A.M.Cs on Northern Patrol only, proceeding to and from patrol via Minches if unescorted.

Ocean boarding vessels will be sailed to and from western patrol in convoy - those burning oil fuel replenishing at Gibraltar between alternate patrols.

Further proposals are being forwarded by letter.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1142/7 to Adty).

A.P. Trawlers for Nore Command.

To guard Channels against intensive E/Boat activities in Harwich Areas, 3 more A.P.Trawlers are required to replace those sunk by enemy action since August.
(C.in C. Nore 1204/7 to Adty). Request you distribute A.P.Trawlers as requisite within your Command, as no more are available from elsewhere.
(A.C.N.S.H 1832/7 to C.in C. Nore).

Converted Fishing Vessels.

Owing to enemy mining, fishing vessels with diesel motors that are being converted to relieve A/P Yachts are not to be manned and are not to leave their conversion ports until further orders.
(D.M.S.1339/7).

A/S Patrol in Sound of Mull.

Urgent representation having been made by N.O. i/c Oban that by night owing to temporary concentration of large numbers of merchant ships off Oban, Northern Approach via Sound Mull should be guarded, A/S patrol drawn from working-u vessels has been instituted.
(Western Isles 1524/7 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of United Kingdom.

DELUGE. At 1130/7. (D.C.1205/7).

KENYA. To be sailed for Plymouth making best use of dark hours.
(A.C.N.S. 0058/7 to C.in C. W.A.)
Sail to arrive Hartland Point dawn 9/11
(C.in C. W.A. 0313/7 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
Intend sailing KENYA 1600/8/11. Speed 22 knots. Expected time of arrival Plymouth 1500/9. Request fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1455/7 to C.in C. W.A.)

Dover. Patrols for night 7/8. (V.A. Dover, 1243/7).

Ex American Destroyers. Your 0836/7. Request you sail GEORGETOWN and CAMERON for Plymouth on 9/11 to pass Hartland Point at 0730/10.

Following are approximate dates of arrival at Belfast of other ex-American destroyers 9/11 - LEWIS LINCOLN LUDLOW. 10/11 - LEEDS MONTGOMERY STANLEY CHURCHILL SHERWOOD. Request you will sail these to Plymouth after two nights in harbour. Inform me if berthing or fuelling difficulties necessitate their being diverted elsewhere.
(C.in C. W.A. 1322/7 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

Operations.

ADMIRAL SCHEER. My 0034/7 German unit made further transmission on same frequency at 0045/7 from approx. same position.
(D.D.I.C. 0151/7 to Ships and Authorities in Areas A. and B.)

My position course and speed are 052° 47'N., 013° 30'W., 240°16 knots. Shadower in sight for 20 minutes. Intend to operate near 048° N., 015° W during daylight 8/11 and then return to Scapa.
(F.O.C. 1st B.C.S.1131/7).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

NELSON and SOUTHAMPTON spread 10 miles apart are patrolling with four destroyers about a datum line drawn 135° and 315 through position 063° 30' N., 012° 25'W., at 0530 on course 045° and at 1000 on a course 225 . Speed 12 knots north east 16 knots southwest.

DOUGLAS VIMY and BULLDOG after refuelling at Skaale Fjord Faroes have instructions to rendezvous with me in 063° 15'N., 013° 00'W., at 1200/9.

RODNEY was detached at 2320/6 in position 060° 47' N., 009° 46'W., to proceed in accordance with Adty. 2107/6.

* Suggest re-opening Iceland D/F Station at once. Admiralty pass to H.Q.C.C.
(C.in C. H.F. 1209/7).

Your position was reported to the enemy at 1140.
(D.D.I.C. 1214/7 to V.A. 1 B.C.S.)

CORNWALL W S 4 A from northwards and PRETORIA CASTLE from southwards are steering for 042° 00'N., 023° 00'W due P.M/7.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1220/7 to SALOPIAN, CILICIA).

Shipping.

Cancel my 1220/6. Sailings may be resumed.
(D.T.D. 1221/7 to A.I.G., C.in C. America and West Indies., C.in C. South Atlantic., F.O.C. North Atlantic, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.

You may expect three Hudson Aircraft at about 1600/7.
(C.in C. W.A. 1330/7 to V.A. 1 B.C.S.)

Town Destroyers.

SHERWOOD arrived here 1100 G.M.T. today north defective evaporators. Your 1739/(only effective destroyer STANLEY now at one hours notice.
(N.O.I.C. St.Johns, N.F. 1414/7 to B.S.3)

RODNEY.

My 2309/6. Route should be adjusted at your discretion to provide chance of intercepting raider.
(V.C.N.S. 1705/7 to RODNEY).

AUSTRALIA.

Your 1245/6 and my 1107/6 (re repair by ships staff). Ship will be at four hours notice for steam for full power from 2300/7. (AUSTRALIA 1905/7).

MOST SECRET.
MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

REVENGE.

You will be required to sail on 12/11 to cover outward bound convoys thence proceeding to Halifax. You are to obtain from F.O.I.C. Greenock the routes of O.B.239, O.B.240 and O.B.241. (C.in C. W.A. 2031/7 to REVENGE).

CHITRAL
A.M.Cs.

CHITRAL should be withdrawn if necessary to harbour as she is exposed to attack should Raider return North of Iceland. Remainder of A.M.Cs on NORTHERN PATROL should be redisposed to be under cover of forces with C.in C. H.F. or otherwise given security.
(V.C.N.S. 2044/7 to V.A.N.P).

For ships in CORNISH CITY'S Convoy attacked p/m/6. Steer for position 200 miles 185° from last position given in standard route.
(C.in C. W.A. 2107/6).

AUSTRALIA.

Your 1905/7. AUSTRALIA is to remain at the Clyde at 2 hours notice for the present. (Adty 2215/7 to AUSTRALIA).

FURIOUS.

My 1257/6. (Embarkation of A/C and Personnel) For Birkenhead read Liverpool. (D.N.A.D. 1043/7 and 1044/7 to FURIOUS).

Channel Convoy shelled.

FERNIE reports about 8 salvoes fell near Convoy off Dover between 2109 and 2225/6. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1857/7 to Adty).

JACKAL.)
JUPITER.)
JAGUAR .)

3 Destroyers may have left Brest. Proceed with despatch towards Roches Douvres and thence sweep Westward along French Coast. Return Plymouth at 0930/8. (C.in C. W.A. 1950/7 to JACKAL.)

Iceland.

CHITRAL proceed to Reykjavik forthwith. (F.O.C.N.P. 2144/7 to Northern Patrol.)

STURGEON.

On 3/11 in 59° 1'N., 10° 20'E. sank one 2000 ton supply ship. on 6/11 in 58 ° 34'N., 5° 38'E. sank one 1200 tons supply ship. (V.A.S. 1158/7 to Adty).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Submarines.

STURGEON. E.T.A. 1230 and enter Wallis Channel 0530/8.
(STURGEON 0111/7 to C.in C. Rosyth).

TIGRIS. Starboard 4 pistons and breech-end damaged. Cannot repair at sea. Propose CUTTY SARK escort me Milford Haven arriving 1230.
(TIGRIS 0756/7 to Capt: S.2) Approved.
(Capt: S.2 0943/7 to TIGRIS).

TRIUMPH. Route from Bishop Rock to patrol near 47° 30'N., 8° W and thence as previously ordered. (V.A.S.1303/7 to TRIUMPH).

H.43. Sails Plymouth 1630/7 for Holyhead.
(C.in C. W.A. 1627/7 to Adty).

H.28. Adty 1842/5. Request H.28 may work for Londonderry. (C.in C. W.A. 1639/7 to V.A.S.)

Positions. For following 24 hours at 0700/8.
(V.A.S.1646/7).

British Air Activity.

SA.IA. Is being flown as early as possible today instead of SA.IE.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0242/7 to Adty).

SA.9. No Air R/C during the night. SA.9 will be flown at 0830. (C.in C. Nore 0629/7 to V.A. Dover).

Lorient. Available A/C of 53, 59, 22, and 812 squadrons to destroy U/Boats and Harbour facilities at Lorient during night 7/8. (H.Q.C.C. 1120/7).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Belfast.

Reference your X.626 of 4/11 proposing temporary additional restrictions for Belfast area. This Command has no objection provided adequate warning is given before conditions take effect and that these are accepted by all concerned as temporary. Request opportunity to consider proposed boundary.
(H.Q.F.C. 1640/7 to Air Ministry).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy A.ENT. (F.N.28).

Help. Position 53° 14'N., 1° 8'E. (WESTMINSTER 0755/7).
Fighters being sent. (C.in C. Nore 0811/7 to WALLACE) A/C bombing in 53° 5'N., 1° 31'E. (WALLACE 0820/7) Several delayed action bombs dropped. No hits. One killed, one wounded, and slight damage in Trawler GREEN FLY by own fire. (WESTMINSTER 0945/7 to C.IN C. Rosyth).

VIMIERA.

Your 1548/6. An H.E.115. (VIMIERA 0927/7 to Adty).

MELROSE ABBEY.

(British, 1908 Tons) A/C attack in 51° 47' N., 14° 3'W. (Portishead Radio 1119/7) Still attacked (Valentia radio 1136/7).

Convoy: F.S.28.
ASTROLOGER.
(British, 1673 Tons)
DAGO II.
(British, 1993 Tons)

One A/C, 2 bombs. No hits. (WINCHESTER 1100/7). 3 A/C. 12 bombs. No hits. One A/C still shadowing. (WINCHESTER 1155/7). Fighters have been sent (Nore W/T. 1243/7). Many Bombs dropped. One ship sunk. ASTROLOGER hit forward and is beaching herself in 51° 32'N., 1° 6'E. (EGRET 1250/7) DAGO II disabled off East Barrow Light Vessel. Require tug immediately. (Recd. 1151 G.M.T. North Foreland Radio 1303/7 to C.in C. Nore). 2 tugs and medical assistance being sent. (C.in C. Nore 1329/7 to EGRET). My 1250. No ships sunk. DRAGO in two of another ship of Convoy.

/ASTROLOGER.....

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy (Contd).
F.S.28.
ASTROLOGER.
(British 1673 Tons)
DAGO II.
(British 1993 Tons)

ASTROLOGER beached 70° West of Barrow Beacon 5 cables. EGRET damaged above water and 2 fuel tanks holed, 5 severe casualties and several minor cases. E.T.A.Sheerness 1515. (EGRET 1354/7 to Adty). Am standing by ASTROLOGER in distress near Knob Light Vessel (ST.MELLONS 1831/7 to O.I.C. Harwich). DAGO II beached at Nore. No casualties. Hoped to salve (C.in C. Nore 0041/8 to Adty).

OXFORD.

(British, 1893 Tons). In 52° 2'N., 1° 42'E. Off Shipwash. Bombed. (North Foreland Radio 1221/7. No report of arrival in Thames. (C.in C. Nore 0041/8 to Adty).

CASPIAN.

Your 1703/5. Early full report of air attack at 1030/5 requested. (D.D.I.C.1853/7).

Convoy.

FERNIE reports at 0609/7 three Bombs dropped near ships in Convoy 8 miles S.W. of Beachy Head. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1857/7 to Adty).

Mining.

Plymouth.

Port is closed owing to mines. (C.in C. W.A. 0729/7).
Port is open. (C.in C. W.A. 1055/7).
Port is closed. (C.in C. W.A. 1850/7).

WILLIAM WESNEY.
(M/S Trawler).

Mined and sunk 6 cables 322° from South Shipwash Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1035/7 to Admiralty).
Mined and sunk 0858/7, 51° 53' 48" N, 1° 35' 36" E. 4 ratings missing, 1 rating killed. Details. SHELDRAKE, passing at time. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1402/7 to C.in C. Nore).

Explosions.

Explosion seen and heard by A/S Trawler close to ship in position 5 cables 035° from sunk Lt.Vessel at 0505/7. Heavy explosion reported at 0938 ½ mile S.E. N.E. Swin Lt.Vessel, no ships in vicinity. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1137/7 to Admiralty.

MOST SECRET.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Falmouth. Port is open entrance by Q.Z.S.180. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1208/7). Port is closed owing to mines. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 2036/7).

WILLIAM VAN DE ZAAN. Route from Londonderry.

(1) 55° 38'N., 07° 00'W.
(2) 55° 38'N., 08° 00'W.
(3) 54° 31'N., 14° 00'W.
(4) 51° 00'N., 20° 00'W.

thence to Ponta Delgarda Azores. (C.in C. W.A. 1410/7).

Ruytingen. Your 1314/6. Proposal to mine Channel on either side of Inner Ruytingen did not emanate from me. There is no recent information that these channels are in use or buoyed and it has consequently been thought that vessels use the inshore channels. Proposed positions for minefields were contained in my No. A 5/1462/40 of 9th October, 1940. (V.A.Dover, 1438/7 to C.in C. Nore).

Dover. Routine sweep to noon/7/11. Details. (V.A. Dover 1514/7).

TEMPLE/MOAT. (4427 Tons). Reports enemy aircraft dropped round black object probably a mine 5 cables 225° from buoy at 0745/7. No parachute and no explosion. (WALLACE 1530/7 to C.in C. Nore).

B.S.46. Initial position 56° 01'N., 1° 12'W. Direction 328° Length 9 miles. Minelayers TEVIOT BANK and PLOVER escorted by two destroyers. Details (D.D.O.D.(M) 1601/7).

POULMIC. (Free French). Mined and sunk, probably acoustic at 1819/7, approximate position 200° breakwater light 11 cables. 7 saved including C.O. 10 believed missing. (C.in C. W.A. 0218/8 to Admiralty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Liverpool. Cancel my 0950/25/10.(Re anchorage within 5 miles of Bar Light Vessel.) Whole area now considered clear. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1900/7 to Admiralty).

Mine at Bull Point. My 1946/2 para.2. Mine was magnetic. As recovery impossible has been destroyed. (C.in C. W.A. 1948/7 to Admiralty).

Milford Haven. Port is closed owing to aircraft minelaying. (F.O.I.C. 2304/7 to Admiralty.)

Sheerness. Mine detonated at 2145/7, 145° North East Spit buoy 5 cables well abaft sweep. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 2320/7 to C.in C. Nore).

M.T.B.68. About 1800/7 exploded 2 mines, believed acoustic, ¼ mile N.W. of West Rocks Buoy. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2357/7 to C.in C. Nore).

REED. Drifter REED blown up by mine in approximately 51° 46' N., 1° 14.5'E at 1630 today sole survivor Lieut. Empson R.N.V.R. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2301/7).

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Unit. Probably Destroyer or larger to the E. of Fair Island at 2357/6. D/F fix. (D.D.I.C. 0034/7).

Brest. At 0810/7, 4 Destroyers only seen. Visibility very bad. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth 0950/7 to Adty) R/C at 1535/7. (P.R.U. St. Eval 2045/7 to H.Q.C.C.)

M/V's. On Dutch and Danish Coasts at 0800/7. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1145/7 to H.Q.C.C.) 13 M/V's at 0818/7 in 53° 23'N., 5° E, steering N.Ely at 6 knots. A/C report. (Chatham A.C.H.Q.1155/7 to H.Q.C.C.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Skagerrak. Oslo Fiord.	Report on Shipping and Convoys and A/S Patrols by STURGEON. (V.A.S.1157/7 to Adty).
Channel.	At 1210, 3 enemy M/V's with one light Naval craft 30 miles south of Needles. Medium speed. Course 310°. (V.A.S.1354/7 to S/M's Area B).
German Main Units.	Last Known positions. (Adty 1742/7 to A.I.G.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

GREEN FLY.	(Trawler) one killed, one wounded, and slight damage by gunfire from WESTMINSTER during Air Attack on convoy AGENT. (See Enemy Air Activity) (WESTMINSTER 0945/7 to C.in C. Rosyth)
TIGRIS.	Starboard 4 Pistons and breech-end badly damaged. Cannot repair at sea. Propose arrive Milford Haven 1230. Time required in harbour 14 hours. (TIGRIS 0756/7 to Capt: S.2).
MANCHESTER.	17 hours notice for sea can be accepted during fitting of Type 286.M. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1250/7 to C.S.18).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

7.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys.
FN26.

My 1710/6. F.N. Convoy 28 delayed by weather. Position Outer Dowsing course and speed 315° 5 knots. (WESTMINSTER 1045/7).

WN.31.
WN.32.

As W.N.32 will pass through the exact position in which W.N.31 was attacked at dusk yesterday, propose they should be ordered to steer to the northward on passing Duncansby Head turning to the southward at dusk.
(A.C.O.S. 1354/7 to C.in C. W.A.)

W.N. and E.N.

W.A.C.I's Section A. As I presume that you assume responsibility for W.N. and E.N. convoys while passing through your command I suggest that you re-route them as necessary for this purpose.
(C.in C. W.A. 2029/7 to A.C.O.S. C.in C. Rosyth).

O.B.239.
O.B.240-241.
H.X.84.

Time of sailing Oban. (C.in C. W.A. 1231/7 1324/7). Your 1231/7. Suggest sailing O.B.239 from Oban at dawn 0800 to avoid use of lights in blackout. (N.C.S.O. Oban to C.in C.W.A. (1930/7).

Times of sailing Bar L.V. (C.in C. W.A. 1231/7 1324/7, N.C.S.O. Liverpool 1331/7, 1425/7).
ABERDEEN to sail with O.B.240 leaving convoy in 20° W. and proceeding to Sydney C.B. (C.in C. W.A.1500/7). D.T.D. 2140/7.

To steer for position 200 miles 185° from last position given in standard route. (C.in C. W.A. 2107/6). Your 2107/6. As Master unlikely to understand term "standard route" suggest signal be amended to read "last position given in envelope "C". (N.O.I.C. Halifax to C.in C. W.A. 0941/7). Add to my 2107/6 "now". (C.in C. W.A. 1235/7).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.1940.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping. (Contd.)

O.C. 45.	Your 0819/5. Commodore was not at R.V. has not yet been sighted. Have sighted 5 ships of convoy still widely scattered. Expected position etc. at noon/8. (SALOPIAN to C.in C. W.A., 1526/7).
H.G. 46.	Position at 2000/6. Intend returning to Plymouth to refuel. (Capt. D.3, 0101/7)
H.X.85, H.X.86, H.X.87 S.C.11.	Directions for. RODNEY can arrive about 12/11 and will act as ocean escort. Route. (D.T.D., 1237/7 to N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. etc.) My 1237/7. B.H.X.86, H.X.87 and S.H.X.87 not to sail until further orders. (D.T.D. 1345/7).
S.C.9.	List. (C.in C. W.A. 2135/7 to Admty.)
Channel Convoys, Delays.	Admty. 2306/6. Reason for channel convoys not maintaining 8-day cycle is delay in loading and unloading. Recommendations (C.in C. Nore, 2148/7)
Faroes.	Admty. 1220/6. Asking if Faroes regarded as U.K. port, and what action intended for Finnish ships routed via Faroes and intercepted there. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1201/7 to F.O.C.O.S.)
ADDA.	Request you inform master "ADDA" of contents of N.O.I.C., Faroes signal 1549/2 Re: Transfer military in Skaale Fiord. (D.S.T., 2233/7 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.1940.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

PONCELET. surrendered. MILFORD is proceeding to attack French S/M on surface in 00.20' S., 08.50' E. (F.O. 1 C.S. to Admty. 1640 A/7). My 1640. After attack by gunfire from MILFORD and A/S bomb from DEVONSHIRE's Walrus, French S/M PONCELET surfaced, surrendered and then scuttled herself. Survivors in MILFORD and DELHI. (F.O. 1 C.S., 1900/7).

French Ships. One Vichy French destroyer and French ship CARIMARE sighted in 06.00 N., 14.34 W., course and speed, 135°, 9 knots, at 1300Z/6. (C.in C. S.A. to 1 S.C. 1315/7)

SALOPIAN. Sighted four-master topsail schooner flying Vichy French colours heading 320° becalmed in 45.32 N., 20.00' W. at 1915/6. (SALOPIAN, 1525/7 to V.A.N.P., F.O.C.N.A.)

INDOCHINOIS Admty. 1104/29. Proper officer of the Crown, Sierra Leone, cannot find adequate legal grounds on which to ask court to condemn cargo of INDO CHINOIS. Request necessary instructions be issued through Govr., Sierra Leone. (C.in C. S.A. 1415/7, to Admty.)

CUBA. Your 1707/6 and 1747/8. Asking if 1216 sailors in CUBA, to be transported in neutral ships for repatriation, could remain in CUBA till passages become available. (A.C.N.S. (F) to C.in C. S.A. 1632/7)

My 1747/6. Following preliminary information obtained from CUBA. Passengers, cargo, French sympathies, no evidence at present of gold. (C.in C. S.A., 1721 M/7).

DJENNE My 1934/4. French N.A. states DJENNE left Casablanca 5/11 and will be in 55.35 N., 7.15 W. on 10/11. (N.A. Madrid 2026/7)

North Atlantic.

Italian S/M's at Tangier. Commenting on 1927/6 and 1848/6 from N.A. Madrid, re Spanish diver, W/T installation, etc., (Consul-Gen., Tangier, 1830/7 to D.N.I.)
Re despatch of neutral expert. (Consul-Gen. Tangier, 1509/7, to N.A. Madrid and tel. No. 691 to Admty. 2310/7)

Operation "Coat" C.in C. Med. 1335/4. Vessels sailed less RENOWN and ENCOUNTER 1900/7. (F.O.C. N.A. 1901/7).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.1940.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. — To complete with ammunition from RESOLUTION before leaving Freetown. (D.T.S.D., 1340/7).

WINCHESTER CASTLE. — My 1049/2. In view of sailing of WINCHESTER CASTLE, Clyde, request instructions whether safe to anchor Rothesay to await daylight. (N.C.S.O. Capetown to Admty., 1129/7).

Troop Transport. — Your 2126/6. Arrangements with Dept. of Defence, Union of S.A., re convoys (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1254 R/7 to D. of S.T.)

CITY OF DUNKIRK
SAWALOENTO — Overdue shipping, my 0915/4 and 1015/6. Both arrived Durban. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1155/7).

Troop Transports and Hospital Ship. — Your 1304/29/10 and 2210/18/10, no ship already fitted as Hospital Ship can be made available as requested in your 1235/4/10 as all in service of fitting are urgently needed.
Propose SELANDIA be fitted by you for the purpose as suggested in your 1615/19/8.
Desirable also to release LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE from Trooping Service Durban/Mombasa in order to resume her normal service.
Alternative shipping will be made available as soon as possible for your service.
(D.S.T. 2231/7 to S.N.O. Simonstown).

Mediterranean.

Hurricanes, ARGUS — Repeating Air Ministry 1920/6 to S.O. Force H., re Hurricane pilots, ARGUS, having had no carrier experience, and Aid Staff consider moonlight take-off should not be attempted. (D.N.A.D.1110/7)

Greece. — Situation Report 1800 hours. Confused fighting in area Egoumenitsa. (M.A.Athens to C.in C. M.E., 0155/7).

Valona transports. — Papagos points out that reconnaissance by 30 Sqdn. R.A.F. reported 16 ships in harbour at Valona indicating arrival extensive Italian reinforcements. Need for withdrawing regular division from Crete more pressing than ever. (Brit. Mil. Mission, Greece, to C.in C. M.E., 0155/7).

/ Air Recco. .....

MOST SECRET.

7.11.1940.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Air Recco.	Ionian Isles air reconnaissance today cancelled. (H.O.I.C. Malta 0849/7.
Operation White.	Choice of plan, (a), ARGUS (b) or (c), ARK ROYAL (S.O. Force H, 0901/7, to Admty.) See Med. Vol. Ref. 1114/6 from Admty. (arrival of NEWCASTLE at Gibraltar). Date. (F.O. Force H., to NEWCASTLE, 0903/7). Sailed ARGUS, DESPATCH, VESPER, VENOMOUS, and WINDSOR in accordance my 1617/5 and DESPATCH's 1542/16. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1052/7). Repeating H.O.I.C. Greenock's 1617/5 re sailing ARGUS, DESPATCH, etc., to F.O. Force H, (D.O.D. (F) 1744/7).
FORMIDABLE, EAGLE	Your 2001/5. For reasons (given) do not consider proposed change round should be made. (5 S.L. to C.in C. Med. 1153/7)
Fulmars.	To reduce immediate shortage Fulmars in E. Mediterranea, propose ARK ROYAL should fly 3 of 808 Sqdn. to Malta during current operation for embarkation in ILLUSTRIOUS as arranged by you. (D.N.A.D. to C.in C. Med., 1712/7).
Air Report.	H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., A. 449, 1207/7. No naval items.
Unidentified Ship.	Position course and speed unidentified hospital ship, 36.25 N., 16.07 E., 160°, 15. (REGENT, 1730/7).
Taranto.	Air Report a.m./7. (V.A. Malta 1205/7) See also H.Q. Malta 1755/7. Air Report p.m./7. (V.A. Malta, 1845/7).
Brindisi.	Air Report p.m./7. (V.A. Malta 1845/7).
Greece Minefields.	Your 2100/1. No objection to proposed areas seen in Admty. Subject to any remarks by C.in C. Med., request Greek authorities declare these areas. (Hd. of M. to N.A., Athens, 2025/7)
Air Report.	Malta situation report 1700/7 all times G.M.T. Recco. Ionian Sea North of lat. 37 N. by following aircraft 0525 to 1458 Sunderland 230 Sqdn. nil report; 0605 to 1115 Latecoere French seaplane, nil report. Recco. Taranto by 2 Glenn Martins 0515 to 0942 first Glenn Martin reported in outer harbour 4 battleships

/ 5 cruisers .....

MOST SECRET.

7.11.1940.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued).

Air Report. (contd.)

5 cruisers 4 destroyers in inner harbour and 2 cruisers and 6 destroyers about 15 miles S.W. Taranto course 115 deg. convoy composed of 2 minesweepers 9 very small M/Vs 16 miles N.E. Furonica Point 2 M/Vs. about 3000 tons each in line ahead course 030 escorted by warship painted grey rather larger than a destroyer probably an auxiliary. 1135 to 1530 2nd, Glenn Martin \ Brindisi. Took photos of harbour and aerodromes. Attacked by 4 Macchis gunner claims seriously damaging 1 enemy aircraft. Inner harbour Brindisi 4 cruisers and number of destroyers. Battleship under construction moved to northern side of Basin approx. quarter mile from former position. Taranto 5 battleships 8 cruisers possibly 3 battleships 10 cruisers unknown number of destroyers. Convoy 4 M/Vs 30 to 40 miles out of Taranto. Course 170 degs. No enemy air activity over Malta today, no naval or military items.
(H.Q. Malta, 1755/7 to Air Ministry).

East Indies.

U/B Reports. Re sighting of periscope by BARON HERRIES at 0905Z/6. Ship reported shortly after being sighted obscured by rain squall. N.O.I.C. Simonstown requested to arrange interview with Master on arrival Durban. (C.in C. E.I., 1906 Z/7).

B.N.S½. Date of leaving Bombay. (F.O.C. R.I.N. 0901/7).

French Ships. Interception of. See FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

Hospital Ships. Your 0845/25 Armindia prefers hospital ships used Suez Bombay and states that if QUEEN MARY AQUITANIA and MAURETANIA are used for invalids from Bombay to Australia., Australia should be responsible for providing medical staff in these ships.
(S.S.T.O. Bombay, 1330Z/7 to A.C.N.B.)

Convoy B.S.7½ Sailing telegram. Escort, SHOREHAM.
(N.O.I.C. Port Sudan 1629/7).

China.

N.E.I. Navy. Your 2152/1. Reaction of C.in C. Dutch E. Indies to proposals. (C.in C. China, to Admty. 03152/7).

MOST SECRET.

7.11.1940.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

SHERWOOD
STANLEY

SHERWOOD arrived here 1100 G.M.T. today defective evaporators. Your 1739/6. Only effective destroyer STANLEY, now at one hour's notice. (N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F., 1414/7).

Town Destroyers.

Your 1021/6. (1) R.C.N. Destroyers will operate under command of S.O. Halifax Force while in Canadian coastal waters and approaches and work in conjunction with R.C.A.F. in area that can be covered by air search. Should you desire co-operation of R.C.N. vessels beyond this area, S.O. Halifax Force has authority to transfer command to you or R.A.3 B.S. (2) S.O. Halifax Force and N.O.I.C. Halifax have been instructed to keep in close touch with R.A. 3 B.S. in order to facilitate any operation that may involve vessels under his command. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1316/7 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

R.C.N.
Destroyers,
Search for
ADMIRAL SCHEER.

Your 1021/6, H.M.C. Ships ASSINIBOINE, RESTIGOUCHE, COLUMBIA and SAINT FRANCIS will be at (2 corrupt groups) by p.m./8 F.O.C. 3 B.S. is understood to have three Town class destroyers available which I am informed he intends to place under immediate orders of S.O. Halifax Force if the occasion arises. Air co-operation will be arranged.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1036/7, to C.in C. A. W.I.

Air search for
ADMIRAL SCHEER.

3 Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft carried out special reconnaissance 6/11 from Newfoundland 600 miles towards reported position of enemy raider. Nothing sighted except 2 small merchant vessels. At 1800 G.M.T. in 050° N. 046° W. Finnish ship 2000 tons black hull superstructure and funnels, course 090°. 7 knots at 1910 in 049° N. 049° W. Merchant vessel 2500 tons black hull and funnels, course 245° 9 knots. (N.O.I.C. Halifax, 2131/7)

Air search for
ADMIRAL SCHEER.

Your 1316. Re co-operation of R.C.N. Destroyers with R.C.A.F. What are limits of air searches at this time of year. (C.in C. A.W.I. 2321/7 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

MOST SECRET

7.11.1940
Thursday

War Diary

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

DELOS — Arrived from Russia, 4000 tons of grain. (Galatz 1142/7)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS

LINOIS
DALNY
LE CONTE DE LISLE
VILLE DE ROUEN
VILLE DE TAMATAVE
BERNADIN DE ST. PIERRE. — If French ships LINOIS, DALNY, LE CONTE DE LISLE, VILLE DE ROUEN, VILLE DE TAMATIVE, BERNADIN DE ST PIERRE are sent into British ports for examination a summary of manifest is to be telegraphed to Admty. repeated to C. in C., East Indies, and ships detained pending further instructions. (C. in C., E.I., 09082/7)

CONTAC
RICHEPANSE — Following received from Navy Department French ship CANTAC arrived Fort de France Martinique from Casablanca 2/11. RICHEPANSE entered Point A Pitre Guadeloupe 5/11. (N.A.Washington 1120/7 to Admty.)

Interception
Simonstown — My 2025/6 (not to all addressees) and my 1805/6 (re intercepting of French ships) Ships sent in for examination, summaries of manifests to be reported and ships detained pending further instructions. Ships should not be sent into and port in Union of South Africa except Simonstown. (C. in C., S.A. 1159/7)

KILISSI
COMPEIGNE
ESPIGUETTE
LT.ST.LOUBERT — French ships are expected to leave Sebutal as follows KILISSI on evening of 8/11 destination unknown, possible Casablanca. COMPEIGNE, ESPIGUETTE, LIEUTENANT ST. LOUBETR B.I.E. in near future. Desirable to intercept these ships if unescorted and outside territorial waters and send them into Gibraltar under armed guard or escort them in. (F.O.C.N.A., 1605/7)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

7.11.1940
Thursday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported

1511 — D.F., 59°-60° N., 17°-20° W., (D.D.I.C. 1602/7 to C. in C., H.F. and RODNEY)

1052 — D.F., probable U-Boat 57.10 N., 16.20 W., unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 1119/7)

1600 — At 1600 aircraft sighted U-Boats in position 48.05 N., 07.22 W., course 135° (V.A.S. to submarines on patrol, 1931/7)

1630 — Ehemy submarine has dived in position 48.36 N., 08.36 W., (aircraft 100 Sqdn. 1632/7) Aircraft reported U-Boat dived in position 48.36 N., 08.36 W. at 1630 (C. in C., W.A. to V.A.S., 1641/7) Cancel my 1641/7) Cancel my 1641. Position of U-Boat, 48.05' N., 7.22' W., course 135° (C. in C., W.A., to V.A.S. 2000/7)
At 1625 in 48.36 N., 08.36 W., U-Boat forced to dive by British aircraft, probably homeward bound. (V.A.S. to S/M's on patrol Area B. 1721/7)

East Indies

09052/6 — See FOREIGN STATIONS

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions

Italian one may still be in Azores area.
German 1 about 49° N., 9° W. may arrive Lorient night of 8th.
1 which was in 50° 30' N., 10° W., at 2036/6 and 1 which was in 49° 30' N., 8° W at 2209/6 may be outward bound to N.W. Approaches or to attack naval force.
1 in 50° 57' N., 17° 22' W., at 1840/6.
No news of the one reported at 0940/5 in 48° 54' N., 20° 09' W.
1 about 56° N., 10°-12° W.
1 about 60° N., 19°-20° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1310/7)

Attack of Unidentified Submarines

At 2000 today cancel Admiralty General Message 912 AZ of 1710/26/10 (Surface ships not to attack unidentified subs.)
(B.C.D.H. 0950/7, Admty. General Message Home 933 A.Z.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

7.11.1940
Thursday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Attacked

My 2241/6. Contact maintained until 0046, on completion 8th attack when directing ship suddenly lost contact at range 800 yards. 88 depth charges dropped. Only visible evidence of submarine destruction is large oil patch. Continuing search. HARVESTER in company. Percentage fuel remaining 30. (OTTAWA, 0915/7 to C. in C., W.A.)
Your 0915/7. Sounds very promising, stick to it. (C. in C., W.A., 1122/7 to OTTAWA)
Propose continuing search until one hour after sunset to-day, then proceeding Lough Foyle to refuel. (OTTAWA, 1631/7)

~~44~~
48

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

3 destroyers from Plymouth carried out a sweep last night along the French coast from Rockes Douvres westward.

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

LEWES, LINCOLN and LUDLOW searched the position of the attack on Convoy H.X. 84 for 3 hours ~~today~~ 6/9 without finding any sign of wreckage, but the weather and visibility were very bad.

BONAVENTURE and MASHONA were detached by REPULSE at 0400 today and made a short search to leeward of the position of attack and at 1800 set course to R.V. with REPULSE. No trace of wreckage or boats was sighted.

HOOD and forces in company left their patrol area west of Lands End at 2000 today to refuel.

AUSTRALIA left the Clyde at 2100 today to relieve RENOWN in covering homeward bound convoys H.G. 46, S.L. 53S and S.L.F. 53.

On relief RENOWN is to join ARGUS and DESPATCH for operation "WHITE"

WORCESTERSHIRE of the Northern Patrol is ordered to join C. in C., H.F.

SOUTHAMPTON is being sent to fuel in Iceland, then to patrol Denmark Straits.

NELSON is patrolling N.E. by night and S.W. by day about position 63° 2' N., 11° 22' W.,(Iceland-Faroes passage)

C. in C., H.F. has asked that air search should be redesigned with primary object of locating during daylight a raider endeavouring to pass through the Iceland-Faroes passage northabout during following night.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

R.A.F. carried out special patrols North and West of the Faroes, between Faroes and Iceland, and a cross-over patrol 300 miles S.W. of Lands End.

Attacks

5 Blenheims last night attacked the Naval Base at Lorient. Single aircraft attacked the inland port of Duisburg-Ruhrort, locks on the Dortmund-Ems Canal at Herne, a large ship at Dunkirk, a gun position at Ouessant and other non-naval objectives.

ST. VINCENT

ST VINCENT on Convoy H.J. 84 was located and abandoned on fire this morning, 300 miles West of Ireland.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy F.N. 29 Attacked

Convoy F.N. 29 was attacked off the Thames Estuary at 1352. SS FIREGLOW (1261 tons) was damaged and taken in tow by SUNFIRE. One ship (?AGAMEMNON, Dutch 1930 tons) was sunk either by bomb or mine. Our fighters destroyed 15 enemy dive bombers during this attack, and in addition WINCHESTER destroyed 2 dive bombers and damaged three. Immediately after this attack, WINCHESTER was damaged by a mine and had to anchor, and whilst at anchor she was again attacked by enemy aircraft and damaged by near misses.
The convoy was again attacked by aircraft at 1615 and CATTISTOCK suffered superficial damage.

WINCHESTER
SS FIREGLOW
Damaged

SS AGAMEMNON
Sunk

CATTISTOCK
Slightly damaged

SS EMPIRE DORADO
Damaged

SS EMPIRE DORADO in convoy O.B. 239 was bombed and damaged about noon today, about 300 miles West of Bloody Foreland. Tugs have been sent to assistance.

SS VINGALAND

SS VINGALAND ex Convoy H.X. 84 was bombed and abandoned on fire this morning, 300 miles West of Ireland.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night was suspected between Falmouth and Plymouth and in the Thames Estuary, Harwich, Humber, Flamborough Head, Solway Firth, Bristol Channel and Milford Haven.

Plymouth was closed this morning.
Blyth was closed at 2321. Milford Haven was opened this afternoon.
Mines were found off Harwich, South Foreland and Milford Haven.

C. in C., W.A. reports that minelaying occurs every night in the approaches to Plymouth and mines have been laid in the Hamoaze and Narrows, apparently from above the Balloon Barrage. Ships now berthed up harbour could not proceed to the sound without considerable risk.
He asks for additional A.A. guns or night fighting aircraft; the present effective military weapons ~~at~~ are 2 Bofors guns.

WINCHESTER Damaged

WINCHESTER was damaged by a mine off the Thames Estuary and had to anchor, immediately after the attack on her convoy (F.N. 29) this afternoon by dive bombers.

Tug Sunk

A tug (? Rescue tug MURIA) was mined and sunk off Ramsgate this afternoon.

A.N. 2. Sunk

A.N.2. (Harbour Defence Patrol Craft) was sunk by mine off Falmouth this afternoon.

Operation S.N. 4.

1st M.L.Sqdn. with ADVENTURE, escorted by 3 destroyers laid mines off the N.W. coast of Iceland p.m. today.

British A/C Minelaying

One mine was laid off Lorient and one off Brest last night.

Danish Ferry Mined

The Swedish Press reports that on 5/11 the ferry between Helsingborg and Elsinore was mined off Elsinore but was not badly damaged.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

C.S.1. in DEVONSHIRE with DELHI and MILFORD are patrolling off the Cameroons in order to intercept Vichy shipping.

Attack on Libreville

C.S.1. reports that Free French report small parties landed near Libreville and main force now landing.

Mediterranean

R.A.F. today bombed the foreshore at Tobruk, damaging the Naval Barracks. Derna barracks was also bombed.

Alexandria was bombed this evening. No damage or casualties resulted.

MOST SECRET.

8.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Barrow Deep Light Vessels

Owing to heavy attacks on light vessels in the Barrow Deep and the desire of the light vessel crews to be evacuated it is considered that these light vessels should be removed and replaced by light buoys with shaded light visibility 2 miles.
Moreover if these light vessels are sunk in the channel they are liable to block it. (C.in C. Nore 1704/8 to Adty.)

French Warships.

Your 2314/4.
A. Concur with proposed action.
F.S. LEOPARD is being sailed to join your command as soon as she is ready.
B. MINERVE refit is to proceed.
JUNON is to be taken in hand on completion of refit of MINERVE.
SURCOUF is to be taken in hand for docking and completion of small defects forthwith. (D.D.I.D. H. 1706/8 to C.in C. W.A.).

Refugees from Gibraltar.

Cancel my 1528/5. FRANCONIA is required for other duties (D.D.O.D. H. 1741/8 to C.in C. W.A.).

Force P.

NIGERIA, KENYA, EMERALD will be referred to as the Plymouth Force with abbreviated title "Force P" and, when engaged in operations, will come under the orders of C.S.10.
(C.in C. W.A. 1850/8 and 1857/8 to C.S.10. and Adty.)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE.

At 1130/8. (D.C. 1142/8)
At 2330/7 (D.C. 0015/8).

A/A Defences of Plymouth

Minelaying occurs every night in Approaches to Plymouth and Mines have been laid recently in the Hamoaze and Narrows apparently from above Balloon Barrage. Ships now berthed up harbour could not proceed to Sound without considerable risk. Present effective military weapons are 2 Bofors Guns. Request immediate provision of additional A/A Guns or of night-fighting Fighter A/C. (C.in C. W.A. 0056/8 to Adty.)

/ German Interest in Ireland. ...

MOST SECRET.

8.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

German Interest in Ireland. Spanish newspaper correspondents in Germany all report German interest in Ireland and suggest British designs on Irish ports which probably means German designs. (N.A. Madrid, 2030/8 to Admty.)

Movements.

ROCHESTER. Intend sailing for Gibraltar 1600/8. ETA. 16/11. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0830 and 1200/8 to Adty.)

CHEVREUIL. ETA. 1600/8. (CHEVREUIL 1000/8 to S.N.O. Tobermory).

Dover. Patrols for Night 8/9. (V.A. Dover 1429/8).

Northern Patrol. Trawler Lines for Night 8/9. (A.C.O.S. 1513/8).

Rosyth. Movements for Night 8/9. (C.in C. Rosyth 1536/8 and 1902/8)

Portsmouth. Night Movements (C.in C. Portsmouth 1633/8)

Nore and Harwich Movements. (N.O.I.C. 1810/8).

CALIFORNIA. Expect pass through 58° 50' N. 6° 15' W. at 1200/9. Course Southerly through Minches, 14½ knots. (CALIFORNIA 1951/8 to C.in C. W.A.).

Operations.

ADMIRAL SCHEER. Keep outside Air R/C range from Biscay Ports with may be taken as 20° W. So long as fuel situation in Destroyers permits, remain between 45° N. and 50° N. and, if practicable, remainlong enough to cover Convoys referred to in my 0106/8. Approximate position of Convoy at 1200/9 is 43° N. 21° W. Course of Convoys 350°, speed 8 knots (V.C.N.S. 0031/8 and 0332/8 to B.C.1.)

DESPATCH and ARGUS are proceeding through 50° N. 19° 30' W., 45° N. 19° 30' W., and 40° N. 15° W., and will pass second position about 1300/10. RENOWN is to leave Convoys so as to join DESPATCH and proceed in company to Gibraltar for Operation WHITE. (V.C.N.S. M. 0106/8 to RENOWN)

/ If there is ...

MOST SECRET.

8.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

ADMIRAL SCHEER (Contd.)

If there is any change of bringing this Raider to action, REPULSE must be used exclusively for that purpose. But position in which Convoy was attacked must be searched for survivors by one or more Ships of your Force. (1st S.L. 0125/8 to REPULSE).

Your 0031/8. Destroyers must fuel a.m. 11th November, HOOD and Cruiser a.m. 12th. There seem to be 2 alternatives (1) leave position 047° 30' N. 017° 00' W. at 2000/8 for Scapa which is my present intention. (11) To fuel Plymouth p.m. 9/11 returning to convoy about latitude 050° 00' N.

My position, course, and speed are 048° 57' N. 014° 04' W. 235° 15 knots. Spoke MASSILIA Casablanca to Liverpool. (S.C.S.L. 1030/8 to Adty.)

Join NELSON on T.R. line 35 during daylight. NELSON steer S.W. by day and N.E. by night. (C.in C. H.F. 1139/8 to WORCESTERSHIRE).

Reference 2044/7 from Admiralty. SOUTHAMPTON is being sent to fuel in Hvalfiord and then to patrol in Denmark Straits. NELSON patrolling as in my 1209/7 but position amended to read 063° 02' N. 011° 22' W. WORCESTERSHIRE is being ordered to join me. F.O.C.N.P. is to re dispose available N P Trawlers to North West and South East of my patrol to watch flank of Iceland Faroes passage. Request air search be redesigned with primary object of locating during daylight a raider endeavouring to pass through above passage northabout during following night. Suggest a Sunderland be transferred temporarily to Reykjavik for this purpose if search of Western Approaches to Denmark Straits is also desirable. (C.in C. H.F. 1143/8 to Adty.)

My 1229/7. DOUGLAS, VIMY, and BULLDOG are to R/V with NELSON in 62° 46' N. 11° 58' W. at 1200/9. (C.in C. H.F. 1145/8 to DOUGLAS)

If not past 20° W., proceed through 56° N. 18° W. which is R/V for Convoy H.X. 84. (C.in C. W.A. 1211/8 to LEAMINGTON, LEEDS, MONTGOMERY, CHURCHILL, LINCOL, LEWES, LUDLOW, STANLEY)

/ Straits of Dover ....

/ Your 1030/8 ....

MOST SECRET.

8.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

Your 20 5/26/7.
I ? N.F. Number two paragraph one (E).
Present indications are that raider is still to Westward so ships N F are to steer North Eastwards by Night and South Westwards by day. Trawler Patrols are similarly to be reversed.
Have you told N F where I am.
(C.in C. H.F. 1304/7 to F.O.C.N.F.)

Your 1030/8. Concur with your intention to leave 47° 30' N. 17° W. at 2000/8 and return with your Force to Scapa.
(D.D.O.D. H. 1626/8 to B.C.I)

B.C.I's 1032/8 and Adty. 0031/8.
Request you sail AUSTRALIA to arrive at 48° N. 20° W. at 1200/10. She is required to cover Convoys H.G. 46, S.L. 535, and S.L.F. 53 after the departure of RENOWN for Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S. H. 1629/8 to C.in C. W.A.)
My position, course, and speed are 56° 20' N. 23° 1' W., 180°, 12 knots.
(CORNWALL 1801.N/6 to PRETORIA CASTLE)
HOOD, 2 Cruisers, and 3 Destroyers operating between 45° and 50° N. and as far as 20° W. (V.A.S. 1939/8 to S/M's Area B).
BLUEBELL and HONEYSUCKLE in company will be in position ordered at 0001/9.
(BLUEBELL 2150/8 to C.in C. W.A.).
Request you detach SOUTHAMPTON to arrive Clyde P.M./13. (1st S.L. 2313/8 to C.in C. H.F.)
Unless good reasons for not breaking W/T silence, you should now report whether you have any evidence of attack on Convoy H.X. 84 by Raider on 5/11.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2321/8 to LEWES, LINCOLN, LUDLOW).

Convoys.

Admty. 1237/7. S.C.11 and H.X. 85. Positions and route. (N.O.I.C. Halifax to RODNEY, 2320/8).

Iceland.

Your 0.350/3/11. (1212/3) Regret owing to urgent demands of recent developments elsewhere it is not possible to send A/C requested or supply A/A Bofors Guns.
(War Office 0645/8 to Alabaster, Reykjavik).

/ Straits of Dover .....

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued).

Straits of Dover. Reports from Dover by R.D.F. last night indicate presence of surface vessels possibly enemy rescue craft between East Varne and No. 2 Buoy. Two available M.T.B's carried out search between East Varne and 2A Buoy.from 2240 till moonset without result. (V.A. Dover 1135/8 to Adty.)

Air Re-inforcements for Middle East. Admiralty's 0218/5.
(a) Intend MANCHESTER and SOUTHAMPTON to embark both aircraft before leaving United Kingdom. If necessary one aircraft from each ship will be disembarked temporarily at Gibraltar.
(b) My 1751/10/10. Request confirmation that excess R.A.F. personnel from Gibraltar will be embarked in NEW ZEALAND STAR or R.A.F. personnel ships observing that if number exceeds 600 reduction in fighting efficiency will be entailed.
(F.O.C. 18th C.S. 1231/8 to Adty.)

Operations P.T.1. and P.T.2. Following two Operations are for trial as an anti-E-Boat measure. Details. (C.in C. Nore 1700/8).

Submarines.

Positions. For following 24 hours at 0700/9. (V.A.S. 1714/8, 1919/8).

2nd S/M Flotilla. Following are estimated positions at 0800/9. (Capt. S.2. 2026/8 to S/M's Area B).

British Air Activity.

S.A. 1A. Cancelled, owing to weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 0906/8)

Air Raids on Tromso on 5/9 and 10/10. My 1834 October 29th. I have now obtained further particulars of air raids at Tromso from another member of crew ESTHER THORDEN as follows, begins:- September 5th 5 German aircraft destroyed. October 10th time bomb dropped subsequent explosion damaged slipway seaplane base and also oil tanks.
(Petsamo 1327/8 to D.N.I.)

/ Lorient)
Dunkirk)
Havre) .....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Continued)

Lorient Dunkirk Havre.	Attacked by A/C. Night 7/8 (H.Q.B.C. 1915/8)
Proposals for Night Decoys.	In Orkneys (D. of L.D. 1922/8 to A.C.O.S.) In Clyde Area. (D. of L.D. 1923/8 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow).
Rosyth Area.	Air Patrols in my 1908/7 will be flown tomorrow. (C.in C. Rosyth 2256/8 to Adty.) Air Searches for 9/11. (C.in C. Rosyth 1808/8 and 0528/9).
EMPIRE DORADO (Convoy O.B. 239)	Bombed in 55° 7' N. 16° 50' W. Boats smashed, sinking slowly, some men still aboard, some taken to rafts. (Valentia W/T. 1209/8). Think ship can be salvaged. Comparatively calm. (Valentia Radio 1400/8) If not with NALON, proceed to EMPIRE DORADO. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1403/8 to ENGLISHMAN, THAMES) Sinking slowly. No means of getting away, all lifeboats smashed. Casualties aboard, 2 rafts still alongside. Help urgently required. (Scapa W/T. 1455/8). Proceed with all despatch to assistance of S.S. EMPIRE DORADO in 55° 07' N. 16° 50' W. at 1245/8 MAN-O-WAR standing by. Tug THAMES also despatched. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1030/9, to SCHELDE).
2 M/V's attacked.	Enemy aircraft has reported successfully attacking one 5,000 ton Merchant Vessel accompanied by one Destroyer in 55° 32' N. 17° 45' W. at 1110/8 and one 4,000 ton Merchant Vessel in 54° 33' N. 16° 45' W. at 1145/8. (D.D.I.C. 1332/8 to C.in C. W.A.).
Convoy PILOT. AGAMEMNON (Dutch, 1930 tons) sunk. FIREGLOW (British, 1261 tons) damaged.	A/C attacking convoy. My position 51° 48' N. 1°30' E. (WINCHESTER 1352/8) 34 Aircraft 5 miles from Convoy (WINCHESTER 1356/8) Fighters being sent (Rosyth 1400/8) One ship sunk. FIREGLOW damaged, possibility of salvage. Position S.W. of Swin. (WINCHESTER 1425/8 to C.in C. Nore) Pilot Boat with injured arriving about 1800 (WINCHESTER 1450/8 to N.C.S.O. Southend) SUNFIRE has FIREGLOW in tow (WINCHESTER 1520/8 to C.in C. Nore). WINCHESTER damaged by near misses, mines and bombs. No casualties. Now anchored in 51° 42' N. 1° 30' E. Am rejoining convoy. (CATTISTOCK 1639/8 to C.in C. Nore).

/ Dive-bombed ....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

Dive-bombed by 15 A/C at 1615.
Superficial damage and 7 casualties.
(CATTISTOCK 2046/8 to C.in C. Nore)
30 survivors from AGAMEMNON landed Southend, 5 injured. Position of wreck 3 cables 220° from S.W. Swin L.V. 2 Tugs will take FIREGLOW up river. (N.C.S.O. Thames 0145/9 to C.in C. Nore).

Report of Air Attacks on Convoys since 1/11.

Requested, under following headings. (1st S.L. 1758/8 to A.C.O.S., C.in C. Rosyth, Nore).

Orkneys.

One A/C dropped 4 Bombs 2½ miles North of Roseness at 1913/8. No casualties reported. (A.C.O.S. 2225/8 to Adty.)

Norwegian Coast.

There are indications of prolonged Enemy Air Activity from Norwegian Coast starting 0400/9. (A.C.N.S. H. 2237/8 to C.in C.H.F.)

Faroes.

Several reports recently of enemy aircraft over Sydero but flying high angle and nationality uncertain except in one case. Yesterday however reports recevied from Sydero Stromo Ostero Videro of a two engine high speed monoplane flying at about 1000 feet anddefinite confirmation of enemy aircraft. N.O.I.C. has informed A.C.O.S. (O/C Troops, Faroe Islands. Rec. from W.O. 0902).

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

HERO reports detonating one Red Mine at 2310/7 in 226° 1 mile from N.E. Swin L.V. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0037/8 to C.in C. Nore)

Depth Charges.

No restriction on dropping Depth Charges in QZH. 202 and QZH. 209, or in any further Deep Field in N.W. Approaches. (C.in C. W.A. 0046/8).

B.S. 46.

56° 1' N. 1° 12' W., direction 328°, 9 miles. (S.O. Minelayers, Immingham 0021/8 to Adty.) Intend sail from Spurn Point 1500/9. Laying will begin at 1045/10. (S.O. Minelayers, Immingham 0031/8 to Adty.) Your 1046/8. Concur. (A.C.N.S. H. 1331/8 to C.in C. Nore).

/ VIOLET ....

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Continued).

VIOLET. My 2200/8. Details of Mine exploded by VIOLET. (C.in C. Rosyth 1113/8 to Adty.)

KELLETT)
ALBURY) To carry out a 50% search of Channel 2 miles each side of following line. Report date of commencement.
FANCBOURNE) (C.in C. Rosyth 1137/8 to KELLETT).

Milford Haven. Port is open. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1446/8 to Adty.) One Ground Mine self detonated in 51° 40' 42" N. 5° 8' 10" W. One Red Mine detonated in 51° 41' 45" N. 5° 7' 30" W. during night sweeping. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1801/8 to Adty.) My 1322/7 and 1214/8. Operations on 9/11 cancelled owing to weather. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1845/8 to C.in C. W.A.).

MURIA. Tug, believed MURIA, sunk by Mine at 1425/8 one cable N.N.W. from Botany Buoy. No survivors. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1714/8 to Adty.) My 1714/8. 51° 26' 30" N., 1° 27' 30" E. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0220/9).

A.N.2. (Harbour Defence Patrol Craft). Mined and sunk in 119° Pendennis 2950 yards at 1550/8. No casualties. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1730/8 to Adty.)

Dover. Routine sweeps to 1200/8. One Mine and 2 Explosive cutters found 2.3 miles 94° South Foreland. (V.A. Dover 1818/8 to Adty.)

Harwich. 4 Paddle Mine-Sweepers continuing search West of X cleared area. One German W-type Mine cut and sunk in 51° 44' 36" N. 1° 40' 48" E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1838/8 to Adty.)

Stavanger. German Minelaying A/C reported at Stavanger. This may indicate extended Minelaying on N. and N.E. coasts of Scotland. (D.D.I.C. 1845/8 to C.in C. H.F.)

Plymouth. Closed, owing toenemy Minelaying. (C.in C. W.A. 2020/8 to Capt. D.3.)

Blyth. Port closed until completion of sweeping about 1400 (N.O.I.C. Blyth 2321/8 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).

S.N. 44. Completed. (R.A.M.L. 1826/8 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Unknown Ship. Iceland A/C sighted a 16,000 ton ship at 1435/7 steering East in 67° 33' N. 24° 52' W. Ship was not a Pocket Battleship. Report immediately if ship was not you. (V.C.N.S 0922/8 to CHITRAL) My position at 1435/7 was 66° 52' N. 25° 8' W. steering 070° at 15 knots. My position was 10 miles South of Ice Pack. (CHITRAL 1055/8 to Adty.)

Large Enemy Unit. Indications that large Enemy Unit may be operating near Zone C.1. (V.A.S. 1814/8 to S/M's Area A.)
At 1306/8 B.S.T. Enemy Unit in 58° N. 5° E. May have been either HIPPER or SCHARNHORST.
At 1535/8 B.S.T. Enemy Unit in 57° 55' N. 6°30' E. D/F unreliable fixes. (D.D.I.C. 1814/8) Indications are based on R.F.P. No R.F.P. of second transmission (D.D.I.C. 1818/8 to C.in C. H.F.)

E-Boats. Indications point to possible presence of E-Boats astern of Convoy. (C.in C. Nore 2143/8 to CATTISTOCK).

Flushing. One large Ship at anchor S.E. of Flushing on Night 7/8 (H.Q.B.C. 1915/8).

Rotterdam. 8 vessels about 5000 tons and 3 or 5 about 1000 tons, at anchor without lights on Night 7/8 (H.Q.B.C. 1915/8).

MOST SECRET.

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CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

IMPULSIVE. Defective propeller shaft. Undesirable proceed to sea until defects remedied. (C.in C. Nore 1046/8 to Adty.)

SOUTHAMPTON. Speed much reduced by foul bottom and A/S gear defective for last six months. Docking desirable before she goes abroad. (C.in C. H.F. 1157/8 to Adty.)

WIVERN. WIVERN's 2322/8. Request you convene Board of Inquiry and keep Adty. informed. (C.in C. W.A. 1352/8 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

DIONI. (Greek, 4227 tons) Stranded. All anchors lost. (Burnham-on-Sea Radio 2140/8 to Adty.)

/ Sometime and 5 ship..

MOST SECRET.

8.11.1940.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Routeing. My 1922/27/10 and your 1616/4/11. Consider that to provide for independently routed ships crossing estimated track of offensive reconnaissance planes at right angles, they should normally be routed to cross meridian 18 degs. West between 55 degs. North and 57 degs. North but that a proportion from West Atlantic ports should cross 18 degs. W. North of this and proceed thence North of Rockall. (C.in C. W.A. 1837/8 to Admiralty.)

Faroes. Faroes 1201/7. Re routeing of ships to Faroes. For this purpose I presume Faroes would be regarded as U.K. Port. (A.C.O.S. 1941/8 to Adty.)

Convoys.

C.W. Concur with C.in C. Nore's 2305/6. Observations. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1835/8)

S.L.S. 53. May be considerably to southward. Convoy ordered to steer 000 from 1600/7 which course should take them slightly to westward of position A. (D.T.D., 0035/8 to RENOWN)

S.L. 53. If you have not met British Man of War turn ships in company in S.L. 53 slow forthwith to course crossing Latitude 50 dgs. 00' N. thirty miles further West than your original route. (D.T.D. 0140/8 to C.B.M.S. Area 1 for NESTLER only)

H.G. / **S.L.** On arrival at 37.30 N., 20.00 W. H.G. and S.L. convoys should steer 350°. (D.T.D. 0036/8 to WELLINGTON, ARAWA).

S.L. 54. Route. (F.O.C. N.F., to SALOPIAN, CILICIA, MARSDALE, 1120/8).

H.X.84. (Attacked by raider). For ships in CORNISH CITY convoy attacked p.m./5. My message 2107/6. For "given in standard route" read "given in envelope C". (C.in C. W.A., 1005/8, addressed C.B.M.S.1) If not past 20° W., proceed through position 56.00 N., 18.00 W., which is R.V. for Convoy H.X.84. (C.in C. W.A. 1211/8 to LEAMINGTON, LEEDS, MONTGOMERY, CHURCHILL, LINCOLN, LEWES, LUDLOW, STANLEY.) Asking for any evidence of attack by raider on 5/11. (D.O.D. (H) to LEWES, etc. 2321/8).

/ Commodore and 5 ships..

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping. (Continued)

Commodore and 5 ships will pass through position 056° 00' N., 015° 00' W. about 0600/9. Intercept and escort them. (HAVELOCK, 0036/9 to BLUEBELL)

W.N.
E.N.

Your 2029/7. In future if it appears desirable through enemy action to re-route W.N. and E.N. convoys passing through my command will ussue necessary orders to S.O. of escort direct repeating to authorities concerned. (A.C.O.S. 1203/8 to C.in C. W.A).

O.B. 239.

Your 1930/7 (Sailing of O.B. 239 from Oban) approved (C.in C. W.A. 1227/8 to N.C.S.O. Oban).
My 1231/7. Sailing of O.B. 239 Oban now 0800/10. (C.in C. W.A. 1243/8).
Following message received from ALDERGROVE begins - To C.in C. W.A. from GARLAND MALLOW request instructions as to when she should be detached from Convoy, 1010/8 - ends. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1428/8 to C.in C. W.A.).

S.C. 9 B.

R/V S.C.9 B. in 053° 46' N., 005° 08' W. 0200/9 (C.in C. W.A. 1527/8 to CANADIAN PRINCE LEEDS UNITED).

S.C.10.

Route. (D.T.D. 1214/8) Meet. (C.in C. W.A. to WALKER, etc., 2305/8).

F.N. 29.

2 M.L. to join at position Z. (F.O.C. Harwich Force 1735/8 to SHELDRAKE).

CISCAR.

When ready, to be sailed in first available O.B. Convoy for Clyde and thence in W.N. Convoy with instruction to break off independently for Reykjavik. (D.T.D. 1857/8)

Air Attacks on Convoys.

To assist review problem of protection to East Coast and North about convoys from air attack, request report for all such attacks in the area under your command since 1/10. (1 S.L. 1758/8, to A.C.O.S., C.in C. Rosyth and Nore.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

PONCELET
Sunk

Necessary we should be in possession of full information regarding circumstances in which French submarine PONCELET was sighted and attacked. (C.N.S. to C.S.1. 0001/8)
Your 0001/8 MILFORD AND TURCOMAN were on patrol off Port Gentil, DEVONSHIRE and DELHI off Libreville. Am closing MILFORD at dawn to obtain rescued. 3 officers and 51 men rescued all in MILFORD.
Casualties if any not yet known. (F.O.C. 1 C.S. to Admty., 0302/8)
Your 0302/8. Presumed signal containing fuller information will be forwarded after meeting MILFORD. Particularly desired to know sequence of events from first sighting of submarine and what was known of movements of submarine before she was sighted. (V.C.N.S. to C.S. 1., 1032/8)

My 0302/8. Following report from MILFORD Submarine first sighted 1547, 013 degs. Cape Lopez 15 miles on surface 050 degs. 6½ miles steering north. Signalled her to stop which she continued to ignore. Opened fire at 1710 range 10900, with foremost gun, fire not returned. At 1720 submarine turned to westward and dived range then 8700. While manoevring submarine bombed by DEVONSHIRE Walrus. At 1733 submarine surfaced and was again engaged. Crew fell in on deck at 1735, diastance of submarine the 2½ miles. Closed and again signalled her to stop, then steer 300 degs. 10 knots. She replied by semaphoring that she was Frencl S/M PONCELET and unable to work her engines. Boat lowered with armed guard at 1815 but submarine scuttled herself before boat could leave ship. Part 3 follows.

My 0821, part 3. Log of French S/M PONCELET now discovered in MILFORD confirms firing torpedo and gives time as 1423. (C.S.1. 1014A/8)

My 0821 part 3 final. There is some evidence from survivors that S/M fired 1 or more torpedoes about 1500. MILFORD felt underwater explosion and TURCOMAN's asdic dome sustained damage ½ hour before. S/M was hit forward by MILFORD on diving shell passing through without exploding but caused water to enter main hull necessitating surfacing. Aircraft bombing ineffective. Captain or 1st Lt. lost. (C.S.1., 0821A/8 to Admiralty)

/Is there.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

PONCELET
Sunk, Contd.

Is there any objection to sending survivors to Lagos if transfer to DELHI can be effected 9/11. (F.O.C. 1st C.S. 1514A/8 to Admiralty)

Request arrange 3 officers 51 men survivors French submarine to be received at Lagos arriving DELHI about 11/9 to be kept under guard (C. in C., S.A. 1745N/8 to Governor Nigeria)

Your 1514A/8 and my 1745N/8 refers. Given most secret distribution re French S/M. (C. in C., S.A. Station 1904/8 to F.O.C. 1st C.S.)

French N.A. on instructions from French Admiralty that 2 British seaplanes attacked submarine PONCELET escorted by BOUGAINVILLE in territorial waters off French Congo 4/11. What shall I reply. (N.A.Madrid, 1852/8 to Admiralty)

Attack on Libreville

Free French report small parties landed at head of Tsini Creek in accordance with plan casualties small, main force all landing today in same place. (F.O.C.I.C.S. 1001/8 to Admiralty)

My 1001/8. Main landing now in progress Action against BOUGAINVILLE by SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA and CDT. DOMINE intended to-morrow. (F.O.C.I.C.S. 2112/8 to Admty.)

Rapatriation of CUBA's Sailors

Your 1632/7. Being investigated. Suggest chartering neutral ship and arranging with French Govt. for safe conduct. Presume should go to Casablanca (C. in C. S.A. 1815/8 to Admty.)

Interception of CUBA

My 1721/7. Further information as follows details. Trouble in FORT DE FRANCE amongst crews of warships who wished de-mobilisation chief reason for repatriation. (C. in C., S.A. 1935/8 to Admty.)

/DJENNE.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French-Contd.

DJENNE	My 1615/4 (1) Did not sail in company with MASSILIA. (2) Left Casablanca 5/11 and will be in 55° 35' N., 7° 15' W., on 10/11. (D.D.D. (H) 2020/8 to C. in C., W.A.)
RICHELIEU JEAN BART	During absence of Force H from Gibraltar every endeavour to be made by submarine patrol to prevent RICHELIEU or JEAN BART passing through Straits. Details for stopping. (1st S.L. 2348/8 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your 1210/3 para 5. They should be stopped unless overwhelming force is brought against our naval forces. (1st S.L 2351/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Dakar Intelligence	From 2 French officers, Montezer and Bertrand, arrived from Dakar and desiring to join Free French Forces. (O.A.G. Sierra Leone to S of S for Colonies, 1940/8)

North Atlantic

RENOWN	Your 0901/7. As RENOWN will now be available, presumed this question does not arise. (D.O.D. (F) 1301/8 to S.O. Force H.)
Operation "White" ARGUS	Admty. 2325/2. Based on the assumption that your expected time of arrival is after dark 13/11 WISHART and WRESTLER will be sailed to R.V. with you during daylight on 12/11. Details of destroyers position and course. (F.O.C.N.A. 1132/8 to ARGUS)
	Admty. 0106/8 and my 1132/8. Two destroyers only are available to send as escort for RENOWN ARGUS and DESPATCH. It is for consideration whether RENOWN should not return independently at high speed observing ARGUS will not be able to provide air escort. (F.O.C.N.A. 1240/8 to Adty. S.O. Force H., RENOWN)
	Your 1240/8. It is at your discretion. (1st S.L. to F.O.C.N.A. 1043/9)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic-Contd.

CILICIA	F.O.C.N.P. 1330/6 re movements of CILICIA DERBYSHIRE, CAMITO, RENOWN. No escort available. Pass through following positions (a) 036° 00' N., 013° 30' W., (b) 035° 30' N., 010° 00' W., (c) 035° 30' N., 007° 00' W., Leave patrol and adjust speed to arrive Northernentrance 0730/12. (F.O.C.N.A. 1238/8 to CILICIA)
Operation "Coat" PASTEUR	Admiralty's 1150/5. In interest of secrecy for operation "Coat" disembarkation draft for Gibraltar has been delayed until a.m. Saturday 9th November. Intend sailing PASTEUR p.m./9 at best possible speed for U.K. No escort available. (F.O.C.N.A. 1328/8)
SERGENT GOUARNE CAP BLANC CAUDEBEC	Gibraltar 1000/8 French Armed Trawler SERGENT GOUARNE escorting CAP BLANC, CAUDEBEC passed from east to west. (S.O(I) Gib. 1317/8)
UPRIGHT	Your 1210 ARCTIC RANGER will R.V. with you in (position) at 1030/G.M.T./9. Information of own ships' movements affecting her. (F.O.C.N.A. 1702/8 to UPRIGHT)
VICTORIA	Your 1243/7. Not definitely known what ship B.B.C. referred to. Probably ship was Greek VICTORIA which was sunk in position 54° 48' N., 13° 28' W. As not possible to divert her at sea to Cadiz she was still on passage to England. (D.E.W.D. 2023/8 to N.A.Madrid)
Italian Submarines at Tangier	I feel that report contained in F.O. tel 1020/7 to Madrid thereon proves correct. 2. It looks as if an attempt might be afoot to exaggerate damage to submarine "B" so as to be able to claim a similar period of time for its repair to that which will be claimed for S/M "A" - which all along has been stated to be suffering from serious defect. (C-G. Tangier, THI 2330/8)

/Colonel Yuste.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Italian Submarines at Tangier -Contd.	Colonel Yuste described situation as follows: (a) Examination of S/M "A" not yet concluded. (b) S/M "B" severely injured. Offical report being established by Spanish naval authorities. I terminated the interview by expressing my belief that Colonel Yuste and the Spanish Naval Authorities would take every possible precaution to see that the requirements of international law were fully adhered to. (Consul, Tangier 2205/8)

South Atlantic

Convoys W.S.4.C.	Route. (C. in C., S.A. 1001N/8 to CORNWALL PRETORIA CASTLE) escorted by PRETORIA CASTLE. Route speed (C. in C., S.A. 1003N/8)
S.L. 54	Route Speed (C. in C., S.A. 1003N/8)
W.S.4.A.	Escort CORNWALL. Route Speed (C. in C., S.A. 1003N/8)
PRETORIA CASTLE	Position 2030Z+2/7. W.S.4.A. not met. Am turning round at daylight assuming convoy is still northwards of me. (PRETORIA CASTLE 1805/8)
Operation "STRIPE" FURIOUS DIDO	Admty. 0218/5 para A.3. Orders for FURIOUS DIDO (A.C.N.S. (F) 1603/8) See Operations Volume. Re shipment of certain material (A.C.N.S. (H) 2014/8 to C. in C., S.A.) See Operations Volume.
ROYAL SOVEREIGN RESOLUTION	Re transfer of ammunition. ROYAL SOVEREIGN may not complete with ammunition until 11/11 but could sail 10/11 with most of it on board (C. in C., S.A. 2051/8) My 1340/7. Transfer is to be limited so as to bring both vessels to equal stowage. (V.C.N.S. 2200/8)

/CITY OF DUNKIRK...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

CITY OF DUNKIRK SAVALOENTO	Overdue shipping, my 0915/4 and 1015/6. Both arrived Durban. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1817/8)
WINCHESTER CASTLE	Your 1129/7 vessels of this description may enter Clyde in dark hours vide my 2115/6 to C. in C., S.A. (D.T.D. 1642/8 to N.C.S.O. Capetown)
Personnel of French M.V's Disposal of	Request early information of decisions or proposals in connection with personnel on board French Merchant ships brought in and under Naval Control. (C. in C., S.A. 1955/8 to Adty.)

Mediterranean

Crete	Telegram sent to G.O.C., Middle East, Government consider it imperative to hold Crete, etc., Greek plans. (1st S.L. to C. in C., Med., 0047/8)
	Ref. Brit. Mil. Mission's 1210/6 to W.O. Please inform C. in C., Med. in die course of date etc., (1st S.L. to N.A.Athens, 0050 /8)
	Movement of Greek troops and submarines (N.A.Athens 1229/8)(See Mediterranean Volume)
Taranto Reconnaissance	Morning reconnaissance of Taranto today unsuccessful owing to bad weather. Evening reconnaissance cancelled. T.O.O. 1151/8 (V.A.Malta 1203/8)
R.A.N.A.S. A.830 Squadron	Re maintenance. (V.A.Malta 1431/8)
Operation "Collar"	Admty. 1733/28/10 and 0218/5. Following are Admty. proposals. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1633/8) See Mediterranean Volume.
Fulmars	Re supply of via Takoradi. (D.N.A.D. 1045/8 to C. in C., Med., and FURIOUS, 1045/8)
NEWCASTLE	Admty. 1114/6 and S.O.Force H., 0903/7. Request sailing to arrive Gibraltar (date) (D.O.D. (H) 1243/8 to C. in C., W.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

MALAYA

Your 1041/2. In view of effect on essential maintenance in retubing MALAYA in Egypt now, considered work should be postponed until arrival of workmen from U.K. (D.O.D. (F) to C. in C., Med., 1251/8)

QUEEN ELIZABETH

Probable date of leaving U.K. (D.O.D. (F) 1251/8)

Air Attack on Enemy Bases

Operational summary No 152 up to 1200/9.
Egypt 8/11. Following 2 attacks made on enemy bases in Cyrenaica. 1215 hours. 8 Blenheims 113 Sqdn. bombed military barracks Derna from 17,000 feet direct hits starting a fire which was visible at a distance of 50 miles. 1410 hours.
9 Blenheims 55 Sqdn. bombed Tobruk foreshore from 16,000 feet hits demolishing buildings in naval barracks.
Results of reconnaissances.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1208/9)

Air Report

Greece. My A.684 8/11. para 4.
The Wellingtons 70 Squadron attacking Valona 7/11 encountered enemy fighters on standing patrol. 2 Wellingtons shot down 1 out of control. 1 CR 42 shot down unconfirmed. Italian broadcast states 2 personnel of crew of lost Wellington captured 8/11. Blenheims 30 Squadron maintained Fighter patrol over Athens.
5 Blenheims 84 Squadron moved to Eleusis from Egypt.
Cyprus. 8/11.1 S.82 landed at Paralimni the crew surrendering themselves. The aircraft was apparently en route for the Dodecanese from Italy with a load of aero engine lubricating oil and lost its way.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1209/9)

Mines

Admty. 1352/5. Request mines may be shipped to Alexandria by first available freight. (C. in C., Med. 1239/8)

/Fulmars.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Fulmars — Admty's 1712/7. If you concur and consider operation feasible request you fly these aircraft to Malta to arrive in daylight 9th. Crews could return in Gibraltar Destroyers. (C. in C., Med. 1057/8 to S.O. Force H.)

Code Names "Request" "Action" — My 2541/25. Following code names allocated operations; "Request" to operation for conveying through to army at Mersa Matruh, "Action" to operation for transporting battalion from Egypt to Gate. (C. in C., Med., 1353/8)

Suda Bay Base — Your 1313/4. Capt. M.H.S.MacDonald, O.B.E., D.S.O., R.N. (retired) appointed approved to grant temporary acting rank of Commander to Lt. Com. H.R.M.Nichols. (N.A. 2 S.L. 1348/8 to C. in C., Med.)

Admty. 2029/1. Immediate requirements for Suda Bay are
(A) One sea-going and one harbour tug.
(B) One vessel for Boom Defence with winch and Derrick to lift 5 tons.
Sea Transport Advisor and Minesweeper Officer will arrive Athens shortly but if possible these craft should be sailed at once for Suda Bay. (C. in C., Med., 1209/5, recd. 1028/10)

Supply of Small Craft — 49. Add to my 1059 (0945 intended). Suda Bay represents another commitment for A/S craft. Tequested that four A/S trawlers additional to those asked for my 1917/9/9 may be sent. (C. in C., Med. 1101/6)

Motor Yachts — Admty. 1542/5 (Motor yachts recently employed on patrol available) Should be glad of some of these craft preferably 50 feet, if crews can be sent. Request their characteristics. (C. in C., Med., 1835/8 to Admty.)

(i) Nil report from A/C on R.C.
(ii) Nil report by Swordfish from ILLUSTRIOUS T.O.O. 1909/8. Ends. (N.O.I.C. Malta 1913/8 to S/M's on Patrol)

Alexandria Air Raid — Air raid 2000 to 2100. 5 machines, 6 bombs no casualties. (R.A.Alecandria, 2224/8)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

YALOU — C. in C., E.I.,06382/8 see French Merchant Ships.

Troop Convoys W.S. 4.C. — D. of S.T.'s 2231/7. No objection to transhipment of personnel at Durban subject to N.O.i/c Simonstown's concurrence. MANCHESTER CITY and NIEUW HOLLAND must proceed from South Africa with W.S. 4 C because they are too slow for W.S. 4.A. (D.T.D. 07452/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)

C.M. 6. — My 0614/4 and your 1254/7. In order to economise on escorts, intend WESTERNLAND shall sail from Durban with LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE, LLANDAFF CASTLE and SELANDIA leaving Durban (date) The whole convoy will be called C.M. 6. (C. in C., E.I. 08002/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)

CERES C.M.6. — C. in C., E.I. 0614/4 and N.O.i/c Durban 0943/5 and C. in C., E.I. 0800/9. On completion of defects H.M.S. CERES is to sail from Durban for Capetown. Report expected time of arrival. H.M.S. CERES will fuel at Capetown and sail with WESTERLAND for Durban where WESTERNLAND will complete bunkers and H.M.S. CERES top up with fuel before sailing with convoy C.M.6. on (date) (N.O.I.C. Simonstown.

MAURETANIA AQUITANIA QUEEN MARY — My 1115/31/10. MAURETANIA sailed Bombay 8/11 for Colombo. Details of passengers. AQUETANIA sailed Bombay 8/11 for Fremantle QUEEN MARY sailed Bombay 9/11 for Fremantle (S.S.TO. India 1400Z/8)

Use of W/T by Shipping — Following restrictions placed on use of W.T. BY Allied Merchant Shipping including Greek ships on E.I. Station.
(A) Wireless silence is to be maintained except for enemy reports or distress message and to reply to British Coast Stations when called.
(B) Private messages are not permitted.
(C) Essential messages fro ships at sea from owners or agents are to be passed to C. in C., E.I. for onward transmission.
(D) Official messages will be transmitted at times given in E.I. 3027/1 2nd June 1940 and E.I. communications order 79.
Note (1) The above instructions also apply

/to Dutch.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

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/to Dutch.....

MOST SECRET

8.11.1940
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

Use of W/T by Shipping-Contd.	to Dutch ships subject to any instructions they may have received from Dutch E.I. Authorities. (C. in C., E.I. 1402Z/7)
FELCE NORTHMOOR }	Arrived 8/11. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan 1506Z/')
Air Reconnaissance	S.A.A.F. made coastal and escort patrols Mombasa and Dic: Head. 2 Warships and 1 A.M.C. escorted in Mombasa No enemy sighted. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1209/9)
GNAT's 6" Guns	Your 0958Z/10 and 0734Z/5. Approved to use GNAT's 6" equipments to form Coast Defence Battery at Port Victoria. (D. of L.D. 1541/8 to C. in C., E.I.)

China

Japanese Aircraft	Reliably reported 85 Japanese Bombers probably Naval type 96 heavy Bombers, 60 fighters probably improved naval type 96 and 20 other aircraft at Gialan. C.N.A.C. have reported Hankow evacuated by Japanese Air Force. (Capt. on Staff, Singapore 0404Z/8 to Admty.)
Concentration of Japanese Transports	Your 1859/6. Re reports of concentrations of Japanese transports at Haiphong, Taiping and Formosa. No confirmation, there have been reports of rumours of concentrations possibly reason for the peculiar report (S.O.(1) Hong Kong, 0159Z/8 to Admty.) Your 1859/6 Concentration at Haiphong probably connected with withdrawal of Japanese troops ex Kwangsi Pearl river transport movements referred to in P.S.T.O. Hong Kongs number 8322/2/11 to W.O. No information regarding concentration Formosa. Confirmation being sought. (Capt. on Staff, Singapore, 0646Z/8 to Admty.)

/LIVATHO....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

China-Contd.

LIVATHO — Your 0441/8. As present policy is that Allied Ships should not proceed Indo-China ports request reason for exception in case of LIVATHO (D.T.D. 1307/8 to C. in C., China)

D'ENTRECASTEAUX — Intercepted letters indicate D'ENTRECASTEAUX is on route for Indo-China and will be followed by MIN and CAP. PADARAN (Capt. on Staff Singapore 1503Z/8 to Admty.)

America & West Indies

Greek Shipping — Your 2032/6 and 1154/2. Policy for Greek shipping sailing for Japan is in my 1919/4 Instructions will be sent when these ships are allowed to sail. (D.T.D., 1207/8 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa)

Town Class Destroyers — Expect LANCASTER, MANSFIELD, STANLEY with CHESTERFIELD and SHERWOOD if defects completed to sail from St. John's Newfoundland on 12/11 (route) Further defects of BUXTON necessitates return to Halifax. (F.O.C. 3 B.S. 1129/8)

Air Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER — Your 2321/7. Search can if necessary be extended to 600 miles but as a working figure which can be guaranteed consider that these limits should be taken as 300 miles from coast. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1602/8 to C. in C., A.W.I.)

Australia

STRATHEDEN — H.M.Transport, left Sydney 0714Z/7 for Melbourne (ACNB,0348Z/8)

CITY OF RAYVILLE — American, 5883 tons. Press report, explosion off Cape Otway, 90 miles S.W. of Melbourne. (D.S. 431)

CAMBRIDGE Mined — SS CAMBRIDGE sank 1300Z/7 6 miles east of Wilsons Promotory as result of explosion possibly mine. Of total crew of 55 only one not accounted for. Cargo. Re Publicity. (A.C.N.B. 1315Z/8)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

SS DELFINUS	Sunk by STURGEON 6/11 see Home Commands, Submarines.
MANSRWALD	Admty. 2325/6.(1325/6? re German ship loading preparatory to sailing) Tampico latest report confirmed loading completed. My 2102/5/10 (2102/5/11?) refers. No signs of intention of MANSRWALD early departure although apparently ready to sail at short notice Tampico is watching other ships and has requested report immediately any activities. (N.S.O. (I) Jamaica 0853/8)
BALKAN STORMARN	BALKAN, STORMARN left today 2100 hours destinations believed to be Bayonne. (Bilbao 1115/8, 2257/8)
ORINOCCO	Admty. 1325/6. Tampico reports German ORINOCCO receiving considerable quantity of provisions water but no sighs of departure any German ships.(S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica 1558/8)
KLAUS SCHOKE LUISE/BORNHOFEN	My 1145/9/10. KLAUS SCHOKE entered inner harbour 1600 G.M.T./7th and now at anchor and buoy between LUISE/BORNHOFEN and Portuguese Destroyer DOURO. (V.C., Horta 1930/8)
ATLAS BELLONA	At Barcelona. Neptune Company, Bremen, sent message 4/11 to Agents at Valencia saying preparations made to speed up docking. (D.S. 431)
SAVONA	At Palermo. Expected to dry dock on 4/11. (A.I.) (D.S. 431)
Ships at Tampico	New York Italian paper of 6/11 persisted that the 4 German merchant ships at Tampico have fuelled and are preparing to sail. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa) (2231/8)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS

TERESA ODERO — Puerto Cabello reports TERESA ODERO taking fuel from BACININ NADRE. (S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica 1648/8)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS

YALOU — Your 0718/7. (1) If possible request information of departure of YALOU from Saigon. If vessel reaches E.I. Station intend she should be sent into British Port for examination, if met. (C. in C., E.I. 0638Z/8 to Capt. O.S. Singapore)

KILISSI
COMPEIGNE
ESPIGUETTE
LIEUT. ST LOUBERT BIE — Following French ships now at Setubal should be sent in if intercepted KILISSI, VOMPEIGNE, ESPIQUETTE, LIEUTENANT ST LOUBERT BIE) (F.O.C.N.P. 1730/8 to Western Patrol)

COMPEIGNE — It is reported that Captain of COMPEIGNE about to leave Lisbon for Morocco or Algeria is anxious to be intercepted when he will surrender his ship. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2248/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Attacked

1456 — Sighted U-boat 56.01 N., 17.54 W., on bearing. (HAVELOCK 1421/8) Were attacked five contact 56.00 N., 17.50 W., still in contact (HAVELOCK 1456/8)

/At 1421....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

8.11.1940
Friday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

S/M distress signal 55.57 N., 18.20 W., large explosion. (CORNISH CITY, 1022/8)

Submarines Reported

1125 — Attack enemy submarine in 55.57 N., 18.21 W 1125 (C. in C., W.A., 1144/8, to HAVELOCK HESPERUS)

1421 — Sighted U-Boat from position at 5 miles in position 56.01 N., 17.51 W., Am hunting. (HAVELOCK 1421/8) See Attacks.

1321 G.M.T. — 56° N., 17° 50' W., (A.F. message) (D.D.I.C. 1628/8)

1544 — 56.30 to 58° N., 18 to 21° W., indefinite position (D.S. 431)

Italian S/M's at Tangier — See North Atlantic

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions — Italian 1 may still be in Azores area.
German 1 was in 48° 5' N., 7° 22' W., at 1600/7 and may reach Lorient today or tonight.
2 may reach N.W. Approaches today from southward, one about 10 hours after the other.
No news of the one that was in 50° 57' N 17° 22' W., at 1840/6.
1 may be in area about 56° N., between 10° and 12° W.
1 in area 57.30 to 58.30 N., 18° to 20° W may be moving northwards.
1 in area 59° to 60° N., 17° to 20° W. (D.D.I.C. 1231/8)

Submarines Attacked

1446 — Sighted U-Boat 56.01 N., 17.51 W., Am hunting. (HAVELOCK 1421/8) Have attacked firm contact 56.00 N., 17.50 W., Still in contact (HAVELOCK 1446/8)

/My 1421....

MOST SECRET

8.11.1940
Friday

War Diary

U-Boat Campaign

Submarines Attacked-Contd.

My 1421 and my 1446. Have attacked twice and fired 18 charges. Contact regained after second attack and then lost. Large bubble of air after first attack and a large patch of oil. HERPERUS detached at 1630 to collect 4 merchant ships in sight and escort them to North Channel. Am remaining in vicinity attack for 24 hours. 56° 00' N., 17° 50' W. (HAVELOCK 1653/8)

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MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

SS DELFINUS

STURGEON reports that on 6/11 she sank SS DELFINUS (Ex Norwegian 1293 tons) off Ekersund and on 3/11 a 2000 ton west bound enemy merchant vessel in the Skagerrak.

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

9/11

MONTGOMERY, CHURCHILL

LEAMINGTON and LEEDS swept through the position of attack but found no signs of wreckage.

British Air Activity

Routine patrols were considerably curtailed on account of unfavourable weather and only those in the southern North Sea and Western Channel were flown.

Special searches were flown today for the ADMIRAL SCHEER.

Aircraft of Bomber Command last night attacked Channel Ports; no notable results were observed, except at Flushing where the docks were straddled and a very large explosion and fires caused.

Coastal Command aircraft last night attacked submarines at Lorient. All bombs are considered to have dropped in the target area.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

SS EMPRESS OF JAPAN

SS EMPRESS OF JAPAN (26032 tons) was attacked twice this morning, 150 miles west of Ireland. One engine was disabled but the ship proceeded on one engine to Gourock (arrived 1420/10)

SHELLBRIT II Damaged

Tanker SHELLBRIT II in Shoreham Harbour was damaged by a bomb at 1740 today.

Convoy F.S.30 Attacked

Convoy F.S. 30 was attacked early this afternoon off Harwich, no damage is reported.

Four Attacks on F.N. 30. VANITY Damaged

Convoy F.N. 30 was attacked off Harwich at 1248, 1316, 1357 and 1645. SCOTTISH HEATHER (Tanker on Government Charter) was damaged by near miss and put in to Methil. In the last attack the escorting Anson drove off the enemy, which appeared to be damaged. In the earlier attacks ships claim to have damaged one enemy aircraft and VANITY believes she shot one down.

Enemy Aircraft

SS SCOTTISH HEATHER Damaged

LUDLOW Attacked

LUDLOW (Town class destroyer) returning from the search for survivors of Convoy H.X. 84 was bombed 17 miles from Fanad Head but no damage is reported.

C. in C. W.A. reports that the danger of air attacks on independently routed fast merchant ships has reached serious proportions. He considers these ships should have both long range and short range A.A weapons. The aircraft mainly responsible for these attacks are available to the enemy only in small numbers and are costly and slow to build. C. in C., W.A. considers that their bases should be attacked.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night took place off the Humber and Liverpool Bay and possibly also in the Thames Estuary. There were indications early this morning of a minelaying U-Boat off Cromarty Firth, but no A/S vessels were available in the Rosyth Command to hunt and weather did not permit aircraft to take off.

ELK Damaged

Ports Affected:-
Blyth Opened 1244. Falmouth opened 1436.
Plymouth: Mine detonated and 5 mines exploded spontaneously; M/S Trawler ELK was damaged by explosion of another mine.
South Foreland: One mine and 2 cutters found
Morecombe Bay: Ports of Fleetwood, Lancaster and Heysham closed 1750½

SS BEAL Damaged

SS BEAL was mined this evening, position not stated, and was brought by tug to Middlesborough.

SS BALTRADER Sunk

SS BALTRADER (1699 tons) in convoy F.S. 30 was mined and sunk in Barrow Deep this afternoon.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

French sloops SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA and DOMINE entered Libreville this afternoon and report BOURGAINVILLE set on fire and abandoned.

North Atlantic

Submarines for Mediterranean Fleet

UPRIGHT arrived at Gibraltar this eveing URSULA has defects and UTMOST is undergoing repair.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Port Said was bombed last night, but no damage occurred.

Blenheims maintained a fighter patrol over Athens today.

Operation "Coat"

F.A.A. Attack on Cagliari

Yesterday one S. 79 shadowing Forces H. and F. was shot down by fighters. At 1330 ARK ROYAL, SHEFFIELD, GLASGOWand 6 destroyers proceeded ahead for the attack on Cagliari. The Striking force of 9 Swordfish flew off at 0430 and all returned by 0805. Several hits were obtained on Hangers and buildings, and a direct hit on the power station. At 0745 three Fulmars flew off for Malta. Forces F (reinforcements for Medtn. Fleet) and B (remainder of Force) concentrated at 0920. One shadowing Cant was shot down at 1005. At 1120 the force was bombed but no ship was hit. Fighters brobably damaged one or more of the enemy. Force F parted company at 1915 in 37° 55' N 9° 10' E. The operation was handicapped by many changes in personnel in ARK ROYAL and by inexperienced pilots.

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MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

3 Blenheims today attacked quays and the destroyer base at Massawa and scored hits on the former. Considerable damage is believed to have been inflicted.

China

As from 15/11 export licenses will be refused for all goods shipped to Indo-China from U.K. and colonial ports.

Australia

A second ship has been sunk off S.E. Australia. SS RAYVILLE sank off Cape Otway last night, minelaying being suspected. Bass Strait has been closed to shipping.

MOST SECRET

9.11.1940
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Defence of U.K.

Deluge — At 2330/8 (D.C. 0004/9) At 1130/9 (D.C. 1206/9)
A 2330/9 (D.C. 2337/9)

Movements

FURIOUS
DIDO
NEW ZEALAND STAR
SOUTHAMPTON
FRANCONIA
CLAN FORBES
CLAN FRAZER
MANCHESTER

To sail in company. Dates. A/S escort. Future employment of MANCHESTER, SOUTHAMPTON Code word "RIVAL" (A.C.N.S. (H) 0012/9 to C. in C., W.A., C. in C., Rosyth) DIDO to sail for Clyde on arrival of HOOD at Scapa 11/11. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1350/9 to A.C.O.S.) SOUTHAMPTON, alteration in port of departure (D.O.D.(H) 1456/9) SOUTHAMPTON intended to sail for Clyde p.m./9 SOUTHAMPTON 1301/9)

JAGUAR — Proceed to Portland (ci CWA 0839/9)

Greenock — Movements (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1301/9)

FORMIDABLE — On completion of trials to proceed to Eastern Meditn. via Cape. (5th S.L. 1329/9)

Northern Patrol — Trawler lines today (F.O.C.O.S. 1518/9)

EGLINTON — E.T.A. 20 C Buoy 2030/9 (EGLINTON 1530/9)

Western Channel — Night report (C. in C., W.A. 1537/9, 1915/9)

VAN DE ZAAN — Londonderry arrival 8/11 VAN DE ZAAN (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0900/9)

My 1410/7. Sail VAN DE ZAAN when ready. (C. in C., W.A. 1700/9 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry)

AURORA and IMPULSIVE may revert to 4 hours notice for steam and give night leave tonight.
WORCESTER and other ships not required for duty revert to 4 hours notice until 2000/9. My 1907/4 ships giving night leave are to be at 2 and a half hours notice by 0830. (C. in C., Nore 1049/9)

/Orkneys.....

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HOME COMMANDS

Movements-Contd.

Orkneys — Movements tonight (A.C.O.S. 1544/9)

ALYNBANK — E.T.A. 2300/9 (ALYNBANK 1550/9)

PEONY
SALVIA
GLOXINIA
HYACINTH — Admty. 1334/4 Route (C. in C., W.A. 1920/9)

HAVELOCK — My p.c.s. are 56° 7' N., 14° 55' W., 90° 12 knots (HAVELOCK 2101/9)

NEWCASTLE — Not to proceed out of harbour until it is safe for her to do so. (1st S.L. 1628/9 to C. in C., W.A.)

CAMELLIA — To await further orders at Liverpool after oiling (Capt. (D) Liverpool 2329/9)

WESTON — Keep steam at immediate notice for the night and be prepared to slip the cable and get under way if necessary to engage enemy aircraft. (C.in C., Rosyth 1723/9)

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER — Your 2321/8 (Have you any evidence of attack on Convoy H.X. 84 by Raider on November 5th?) No. (LEWES 0230/9 to Admty)

Leave Denmark Strait patrol so as to comply with Admiralty's 2313/8 routed through (position) thence to Clyde via Minches. (C. in C., H.F. 1211/9 to SOUTHAMPTON)

Have been unable to join HESPERUS due to N.W. gale. Asdic set out of action. DUCHESS OF ATHOLL in company, intend to escort her to Liverpool. My position 55° 30' N., 7° 10' W., (HAVELOCK 1625/9)

/My present....

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations--Contd.

My present intention is that the first battle cruiser to return to Scapa should relieve NELSON on patrol in the Iceland Faroes passage in company with an A.M.C. detailed by F.O.C.N.P. and that one DIDO class cruiser should patrol the Denmark Straits after fuelling at Hvalfiord. Unless further instructions are received the battle cruiser screened by four destroyers is to take over patrol at 1200 /13, the cruiser is to sail in company with the battle cruiser. (C. in C., H.F. 1246/9 to F.O.C. 1 B.C.S., F.O.C.N.P.)

ANTWERP
MALINES
ST HELIER
Special Service Brigade

Re special duty. (D.O.D. (H) 1245/9) See Operations Volume.

Dover Patrols

Night 9/10 Nov. (V.A.Dover 1410/9)

Harwich

A/P Patrols. Amendment to his 0920/9 (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1715/9)

R.A. (D)

The following messages have been passed to you for information:-
1633/8* 2237/8.e 2313/8 ≠
(D.S.O. 1330/9 to R.A.(D)
* Operation COLLAR- former Most Secret distribution.
e Air activity from Norwegian Coast
≠ H.M.S.SOUTHAMPTON.

SS BUESKOL

Your 0001/9. (See Casualties) H.N.M.S. HONNINGSVAAG and one guard and be instructed to proceed to Jan Mayen Island and there

(a) Capture or sink the ship referred to in my 1735/5.

(b) Investigate the stranding of FRIDTJOF NANSEN (A.C.N.S. (H) 2106/9 to F.O.i/c Iceland)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Submarines.

STURGEON's report. 2000 ton M.V. sunk.

STURGEON reports
(b) successful attacks as follows.
At 1010/3 on westbound 2000 ton M/V in position 58° 59' N. 10° 21' E. range 4000 yds. 3 torpedoes fired and one hit. Column of black smoke seen over ship which settled bow first and sank in 9 minutes.

S.S. DELFINUS sunk.

At 1456/6 on S.S. DELFINUS 1293 tons steering 150° in 58° 34' N. 05° 37' E. range 1000 yds.
2 torpedoes fired and 1 hit. Ship sank in 11 minutes.

(c) STURGEON deduced that all shipping for Norway proceeds in convoy or singly from Kattegat to Oslo Fiord. Ships hugging the coast north of Koster Island except during dark. Ships for West coast of Norway appear to cross Soslo Fiord at latitude 59 degs. 12' north and then proceed through Skaggerak very close to coast. (V.A.(S) 1459/9)

Positions and movements.

At 0700/10. (V.A.(S) 1719/9)

British Air Activity.

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER.

Your 1143/8. Following is summary of air searches being arranged for today
Two Sunderlands from 60° 45' N. 14° 10' W. to coast of Iceland in 16° 45' West.
Hudson aircraft to search area between above patrol and Butt of Lewis.
Denmark Strait will be covered as far as possible by Battle aircraft from Iceland.
If possible an additional Sunderland will be sent to Reykjavik.
(D.C. 0238/9 to C.in C. H.F.)

Air Searches for 9/11.

My 1808/8 and 0528/9. First Sunderland is flying but will probably have to land in Iceland second Sunderland unlikely to be able to take off. Parallel track search and W 2 postponed owing to weather.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0808/9)

All S A patrols postponed owing to weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 0810/9).

My 0800/9 First Sunderland returning Sollum Voe, Second Sunderland is flying and has been ordered to land Reykjavik in daylight. (C.in C. Rosyth 1026/9).

/ My 0800/9. .....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

My 0800/9.
Parallel track search and W 2 cancelled.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1302/9.)

No anti-invasion patrols flown A.M. today and those for P.M. now cancelled owing to weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 1346/9)

Patrol HOOKOS will not be flown tonight. (C.in C. Nore 1638/9).

S/M bombing restrictions. — Ops. 914 9/11. Institute submarine bombing restrictions Forth sanctuary from 0830/10 to 1530/10 area thirty from 0800 to 1800 daily commencing 10/11 area twenty five miles of position 090° Eddystone four miles from 0730/10 to 1700/10.
(H.Q.C.C. 1600/9).

Night decoy — Your 1922/8. This idea was considered before my proposals were forwarded but was not thought practicable in view of the large difference between the area of the flow and that of wide firth.
I am however hampered by lack of technical knowledge. I suggest A.M. representative should visit Scapa to view the actual position before details are worked out.
(A.C.C.S. 2003/9 to Adty.)

Enemy Air Activity.

NALON (Bombed 6/11) — NALON with valuable cargo was bombed abandoned at 1145/6. Estimated approx. position at 1200/9 053° 50' N. 015° 00' W. When returning to harbour endeavour locate this vessel. (C.in C. W.A. 0140/9 to VESPER, VENOMOUS, WINDOR.

Convoy "Arena" (F.S.30) — Convoy Arena shadowed by one enemy aircraft. 52° 0' N. 1° 14' E. (LOWESTOFT 0953/9, WIDGEON 0955/9).

Convoy ARENA is being attacked 51° 45' N. 1° 27' E. (LOWESTOFT 1239/9)

EMPRESS OF JAPAN. — 53° 58' N. 14° 01' W. EMPRESS OF JAPAN aircraft returning. (Scapa W/T 1020/9 T.O.R. 1124)

Proceed with all despatch to assistance of S.S. EMPRESS OF JAPAN in 53° 51' N. 14° 28'W. at 1008/9 bound for Clyde.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1040/9 to SEAMAN, MARAUDER)

/ Following has been ....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Following has been received.
53° 54' N. 14° 14' W.
Bombed EMPRESS OF JAPAN one engine out of commission 0945/9. (Valencia Radio 1050/9.)

54° 05' N. 13° 34' W. EMPRESS OF JAPAN aircraft returned but now gone.
(EMPRESS OF JAPAN 1050/9)

Proceed with all despatch to assistance of S.S. EMPRESS OF JAPAN in 53° 54' N. 14° 14' W. at 1044/9. Tug SEAMAN despatched from Campbeltown tug MARAUDER will also sail when ready for sea. Acknowledge. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1050/9 to Tug ST. OLAVES)

My 1040/9 amend position given to read 53° 54' N. 14° 14' W.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1105/9 to SEAMAN, MARAUDER).

B Report of Whitley T/502
C Search for M.V. NALON

Before reaching approx. position received message at 115 from Group to proceed to 53° 51' N. 14° 58' W. to locate EMPRESS OF JAPAN. Failed to locate her after searching vicinity from 1340 to 1430.
At 1324 sighted French M.V. DJENNE
NLSB 2008 CO 330 12 kts.

Cancel my 1050/9 Proceed to Kirkwall.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1932/9 to Tug ST. OLAVES)

B Report of JGE/236
C Locate and escort EMPRESS OF JAPAN.
Proceeded to given position and searched without result area within radius of 15 miles in poor visibility. At 1529 sighted 1 empty motor boat in position NLBY 0430 at 1612 sighted 2 dr 175 in position NLBY 1256 00 100 30 kts at 1632 sighted 1 dr and 1 large MV 3 funnels 2 masts black hull buff superstructure and funnels about 30000 ton presumed to be EMPRESS OF JAPAN in position NLDE 0030, CO approx 100 degs 15 to 18 kts. In spite of continuous flashing by A/C of correct recognition signals to both MV and DR the EMPRESS opened fire on A/C ABD fired at least five shots. Leading A/C of the patrol then fired a verey light. At 1706 sighted 1 MV French about 20000 tons in position NLGQ 0206 CO 080 degs 12 kts grey hull, 3 buff funnels 2 masts.
(Plymouth A.C.H.Q., 1950/9).

/Details of damage by bombs and m.G. bullets. .....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

Details of damage by bombs and M.G. bullets

EMPRESS OF JAPAN arrived Gourock 1420/10 no casualties. At 0920/9 attacked by bomber in 55° 54' N. 14° 28' W. 1020/9 aircraft returned 1050/9 Hull damage unknown. Vessels armament one 3" L.A. several rifles and rockets. (P.S.T.O. Clyde 1530/10).

LUDLOW.

Following has been read. Enemy aircraft bombing 130 degrees Fanad Head 17. (LUDLOW 1125/9)

Convoy F.N. 30
S.S. SCOTTISH HEATHER damaged.
VANITY damages a/c.

Enemy A/C are bombing convoy AGENT position 51° 48' N. 1° 31' E. (F.N. Convoy 1248/9).

My 1248 no hits 1 D0215 damaged by gunfire. (F.N. Convoy 1300/9)

Enemy A/C bombing convoy AGENT in 51° 46' N. 1° 28' E. (F.N. Convoy 1316/9).

Further attack by 2 D O 215's at 1327 one believed shot down in 051° 50' North 001° 38' East. (VANITY 1357/9).

Convoy attacked by Dornier 215 at 1645 hours in 52° 18' N. 2° 0' E. Anson then at head of convoy immediately turned to attack enemy aircraft damage not known. No damage to Anson. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 2044/9.)

Tanker SCOTTISH HEATHER arrived in F N 30 from Sheerness to Grangemouth reports following damage from near misses during bombing attack on 9/11.

Vessel on Admiralty Charter and Master considers repairs and possibly docking necessary before proceeding overseas. SCOTTISH HEATHER will proceed from Methil to Grangemouth A.M./12 (N.C.S.O. Methil 1529/11)

Convoy "Material"

Convoy MATERIAL is being shadowed by one Enemy Aircraft in position. 57° 10' N. 1° 50' W. (FOWEY 1313/9).

VINGALAND (attacked 8/11)

VINGALAND (Swedish 2734 tons) in convoy H.X. 84 was bombed 1022/8 and abandoned heavily on fire (HESPERUS 1106/9).

SOUTHERN GEM.

Shadowed by one enemy aircraft course my position 150 Aberdeen 8 miles 4 knots. (SOUTHERN GEM 1322/9).

SHELL-BRIT II.

Oil tanker SHELL-BRIT II struck by enemy bomb ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Continued)

SHELL-BRIT II — bomb at 1740/9 when alongside Cleeveland Wharf Shoreham Harbour. Damage. Casualties. Ship unable to steam. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1522/11)

Note: Air Min. D.S. states tanker in harbour at Southwick, Sussex damaged by oil bomb at 1743/9. Presumably same as above.

Mining.

BLYTH. — Blyth closed divert ships for Blyth to Tyne. (C.in C. Rosyth 0155/9 to VEGA)

Blyth Open. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 1244/9)

Unexplained explosions. — Coastguard Clacton reports 0506 several white flashes and explosions south distant also heard by Walton and Naze lookout. 0510 Ends. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0513/9).

Minelaying U-boat. — Ship report plot from Cromarty R.A.F. C H L station indicates possible minelaying U-Boat at 0610. 094 degs. 2.1/4 miles from South Sutor P W S S. Request daylight aircraft search and A/S craft be sent. None available locally. (F.O.I.C. Invergordon 0621/9 to C.in C. Rosyth) Passed to V.A. (S)

Your 0621/9 regret no A/S vessels available in Rosyth Command and that weather does not permit aircraft to take off. (C.in C. Rosyth 0816/9).

Thames Estuary. — Group Officer Ship "HERO" reports 1 red mine detonated by LL Trawler at 2305/8 040° S.W. Swin L.V. 1 mile. (Capt. M/S 0854/9)

S.S. BALTRADER. — BALTRADER mined in 051° 40' 45" N. 001° 18' 20" E. (SUN VIII standing by wreck. Survivors in EVENING PRIMROSE. Two missing. (WOOLSTON 1426/9).

S.S. BALTRADER in F S 30 sunk by mine approximately one and three quarter N.N.E. magnetic from East Barrow Light Vessel at about 1430/today. 27 Survivors landed at Southend by drifter EVENING PROMISE. Believed one dead and one injured are on board S.S. PITWINE also in F S 30 but arrival not yet reported. (C.in C. Nore 2235/9)

Falmouth. — Port now open. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1436/9).

/ Plymouth
ELK damaged. .....

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Mining. (Continued)

Plymouth
ELK damaged.

Since my 1718/6 mine detonated by F.S. Poulmic 200 degrees 11 cables breakwater light. Trawler ELK damaged 0840/9 by explosion 1/2 cable off in vicinity Western Gate vessel. Five mines exploded spontaneously 0015/7 Penlee Point 202 degrees 2⅓ cables. 0445/7 178 degrees Picklecombe Fort 2 miles. 1819/7 121 degrees Draystone Buoy 5.1 cables 1827/7 Rame Head 189 degrees 1.5 miles. 0842/9 Picklecombe 107 degrees 500 yards on impact 138 degrees Penlee Point 6 cables. Positions approximate. (C.in C. W.A. 1536/9.)

South Foreland.

Routine sweeps to noon Saturday. One mine and two cutters found 2 miles 114° South Foreland. (V.A. Dover 1553/9).

Operations S.N.43.
S.N.45.

Propose to sail at 1715/11 and lay as follows:- S N 43, S N 45 (Positions) starting S N 43 at 0930 and finishing S N 45 at 1615/12. (R.A.M.L. 1711/9).

Morecambe Bay.

Ports of Fleetwood, Lancaster and Heysham closed owing to suspected minelaying by enemy aircraft. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1750/9).

Rosyth.

My 1137/8. 50% Oropesa search will commence Sunday 10th. (C.in C. Rosyth 1821/9).

Milford Haven.

Two Ground Mines self detonated cloase together in approximate position 085° Great Castle Head 4-1/2 cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1856/9).

S.S.BEAL.

S.S. BEAL reports having struck mine in position unknown. Tug has been sent. Vessel is entering Tees and Tyne Wharf. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2027/9).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

BOYDS. My 0621/9 (re vessel sighted) Vessel reported now found to be fishing drifter BOYDS. Have ordered her to Invergordon. Cancel request for aircraft and A/S assistance. (F.O.I.C. Invergordon 0805/9).

MINERVA. Following received from Humber Radio intercepted at 1129 G.M.T. on 500 kc/s from Nord Dutch radio begins:- To MINERVA 2 tugs will leave for you at 1300 German summer time and will meet you during afternoon. Ends. (F.O. Humber 1240/9)

Intelligence of ships. A Following from same source as my 1222/31/8.
1. At Kiel 25/10 one KOLN Cruiser, possibly other ships.
4/11 BISMARCK in harbour. This ship was referred to erroneously in paragraph one (c) of my 1622/17 as BLEUCHER Class.
At Bremerhaven 25/10 both BREMEN and EUROPA in harbour. Large guns now removed and possibly some A.A. guns. BREMEN had steam up.
On 3rd both vessels had left, one being sighted Brunsbuttel 4th.
At Wegesack Works 12 U-Boats on stocks and two alongside fitting out.
At Bremen construction of Cruiser continues but appears far from completion. Two destroyers on stocks and two at fitting out quay ahead of Cruiser. One Destroyer in floating dock and one ready but not delivered in free harbour (Crew aboard but no flag flying).
(N.A. Stockholm 1541/9).

Unidentified vessel. Following remains unidentified. From Sumburgh 1 small slow vessel bearing 203° 10 miles course 165° speed 10 knots at 2009.
(A.C.O.S. 1604/9).

Surface unit. S.W. of Ekersund. By D/F at 1720/9. Position of unknown enemy surface unit probably destroyer or larger vessel was 58° N. 4° 30' E.
Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 1758/9).

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CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

FRIDTJOF NANSEN (see also Operations, S.S. BUESKOL)	Norwegian Fishery Protection Vessel FRIDTJOF NANSEN reports she has run aground no position or details unable to amke further contact with her. Unless further information is received intend sending HONNINGSVAAG to investigate as soon as she returns to Reykjavik. (F.O. Iceland 001/9).
S.S. DIONI.	Received 0815 G.M.T. de DIONI timed 0800 G.M.T. begins, Now she lies on the dry mud and rocks in position 51° 42' 50" N. 5° 6' 15" W. extensive damage all along bottom and stern frame. Not yet any assistance offered. (Burnham-on-Sea, T.H.I. 0920/9).
S.S. TIDLEY.	Following received. S.O.S. S/S RIDLEY 340 miles 320° off St. Vincent on fire require immediate assistance. (Scapa W/T T.O.R. 0427/9)
HAHSUSE DUKE OF ARGYLL	Collision reported between H.M.Trawler "HAHSUSE" and S.S. "DUKE OF ARGYLL" damage slight. HAHSUSE was displaying minesweeping signals. (F.O.I.C.Belfast 1501/9).
WIVERN	Your 1352/8 Board of Enquiry already ordered and sitting today. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0920/9.)

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS

Convoys	Shipping
H.X. 87	H.X. 87 including BHX.86, HX.88 and SC.12. Arrange to sail as follows, confirmation will follow. Route. HX.88 and SC.12 are to be sailed at such times as to be 20 miles astern and 225 miles ahead respectively of HX 87 when passing through position A. Cancel previous routes promulgated. (D.T.D. 1654/9.)
O.B.Convoys	O.B.Convoys are to be sailed as follows unless instructions to the contrary are received. O.B. 242 11th, O.B. 243,12th, O.B. 244 17th, O.B. 245 and 246 18th, Convoy O.G. 46 to be sailed on 19th Nov. (D.T.D. 1827/9)
O.B.242 O.B.243	My 1827/9, O.B. 242 and 243 will disperse as usual and ships should be routed to destinations accordingly. Further signal will be made regarding O.B. 244,245 and 246. (D.T.D., 2313/9) Orders to O.B. 242 (N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1615/9)
H.X. 84	Position, course and speed of Commodore and 5 ships of convoy H.X. 84 at 1130/9 056° 09' N., 014° 17' W., course 090° 6 knots. Convoy still widely scattered. Ship attacked at 1022/8 was Swedish ship VINGALAND which was bombed and abandoned heavily on fire. (HERSPERUS, 1100/9) Raider attack. Reports by PACIFIC ENTERPRISE and CORDELIA (see America & West Indoes) FLEUR DE LYS to join HESPERUS with H.X. 84 position (C. in C., W.A. 1715/9) not met. My position 56.07 N., 12.29 W. (FLEUR DE LYS) Unable to join HESPERUS due to N.W. gale Asdic set out of action. DUCHESS OF ATHOL in company. Position. (HAVELOCK, 1625/9)
B.H.X. 86	To be sailed to Halifax independently and routed towards American Coast. (D.T.D. 1653/9) Suspicious behavior of certain ships. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1032/9) See America and West Indies.
B.H.X. 87	As ships of B.H.X. 87 were not issued with envelope C they have no route to follow in the event of losing convoy or scattering. Directions. (N.O.I.C. Halifax to LACONIA 1107/9)

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS

Convoys-Contd.	**Shipping.**
O.G. 45	Escorted by VIDETTE. Route. SALOPIAN leaves O.G. 45 p.m/9 (F.O.C.N.A., 1200/9)
EKNAREN	Swedish, left O.B. 240 in suspicious circumstances. If met to be reported. (C. in C., W.A., 1917/9)
TORONTO CITY	Cancel my 1630/5. To be strengthened against ice before proceeding to St. John's. (D.N.M.S., 1303/9 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff)
PASTEUR	Sailed 1800/9 from Gibraltar for Liverpool. Route. (F.O.C.N.A., 1812/9)
S.C. 11.	Draft sailing telegram. Escort ENCHANTRESS (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. 1719/9)
H.X. 81.	36 hours late at R.V., scattered by heavy gales. (D.T.D. 1531/9)
Independent Ships	Danger of air attack. Recommending adequate A/A armament and trained guns crews. (C. in C., W.A., 1913/9 to Admty.)
Escort Groups	Order of sailing O.B. 242- O.B. 246 and O.G. 46. (C. in C., W.A., 2140/9)
Independent Routes	Homeward bound fast independent ships should be routed so as to cross 18° W., between 55° N and 57° N. A proportion of ships from West Atlantic ports should be routed further North and thence North of Rockall. (D.T.D. 1255/9 to C. in C's A.W.I., S.A., etc.)
Convoy Formation	Decided that columns in ocean convoys formed on a broad front are to be 5 cables apart on account of the much smaller percentage of hits that may be expected from the torpedoes of a U-Boat in the ideal firing position. N.C.S.Os at Assembly Ports to explain to Masters the reason and urge them not to give way to natural tendancy to close in at night which is the time when the increased distance apart is most necessary. (D.T.D. 2311/9)

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

Libreville
BOUGAINVILLE
Abandoned

French sloop SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA and DOMINE entered Libreville this afternoon after issue of ultimatum and reports French sloop BOUGAINVILLE set on fire and abandoned. CAP DES PALMES assisting to rescue survivors. (C.S.I. 1841A/9)

Enemy Units

At 1845/5 fishing steamer MACHADO was boarded by a submarine of unknown nationality but whose crew spoke French in 37° 58' N., 9° 50' W.
At 1800/8 a destroyer of unknown nationality passed Cape Saint Vincent proceeding south with a French Cargoe vessel.
Source A.O (Consul-Gcn., Lisbon 2032/9)

Sinking of PONCELET

Your 1032/8 and my 0821A/8.
French submarine PONCELET reported by DEVONSHIRE's Walrus anchored in Port Gentil at 0700/7. Log indicates submarine left harbour 0800/7 and remained submerged most of forenoon, sighted MILFORD, 1248, French Submarine PONCELET heard Asdic transmission 3 minutes before firing. Second torpedo was fired but stuck in tube. Submarine sank in position 000° 04' S. 009° 02' E. (C.S.I. 1126A/9 to Admty.)

At what distance was MILFORD from shore when an underwater explosion was heard at 1423. (C.N.S. to C.S.I., 2345/9)

North Atlantic

RENOWN, ARGUS, DESPATCH, NEWCASTLE

Route. E.T.A. Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1200/9)

TRIUMPH

Route to Gibraltar (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/9)

KINGSTON TOPAZ

Arrives Gibraltar 13/11 from patrol off Lisbon. (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/9)

CILICIA

Patrol area, to arrive Gibraltar 0730/12 (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/9)

/DOMINE.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic-Contd.

DOMINE Intercepted	Spanish, Ministry of Marine stated stopped by Brit. trawler 15 miles out of Cadiz 7/11 and mails for Canary Islands removed. Request instructions what to reply. (Madrid 1835/9 to Admty.)
URSULA } UTMOST }	Re defects, and dates of completion. (F.O.C.N.A. 1120/9)
UPRIGHT	E.T.A. p.m/9 and will be sent on patrol when ready. (F.O.C.N.A. 1120/9. Arrived 2030/9 escorted by ARCTIC RANGER. (S.O.I. Gib., 2054/9)
Tangier	All destroyers away on escort duties from 10/11 and watch on Tangier reduced to one trawler. Presumed Spanish territorial waters are still to be respected. (F.O.C.N.A., 1120/9)
Italian S/M's Tangier	Report of interview with M. of Marine. Convinced neither Minister nor Spanish Navy will be party to any trick. He did not agree with our contention that to repair damage impeding diving would be to misuse fighting force. (Madrid, 1830/9)
Operation	Your 0901/7 and my 1301/8. Admty and Air Ministry in agreement that course (a) must be employed.(D.N.A.D. to S.O.Force H 1759/9)

South Atlantic

I.C.S.	My 1544/8 and C. in C., S.A. 1745/8. E.T.A. 1130/10 (F.O.I.C.S. 1531A/9)
CORNWALL PRETORIA CASTLE	PRETORIA CASTLE not seen. My position at noon/9. (CORNWALL 1112N/9) Your 1112N/9. My position course and speed, noon/9. (PRETORIA CASTLE 1550N/9)
ROYAL SOVEREIGN	My 2125/5. Sailing to Halifax to be deferred. (D.O.D. (F) to C. in C., S.A., 2326/9)

/? CUBA.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

? CUBA

Your 2326/8 and my 1955/8. Should crew and Merchant Navy passengers be offered opportunity to serve in Allied ships in accordance with S.O.S. for Colonies Tel No 636 to Gov. Sierra Leone. It is possible that some of Naval or Army personnel may ask to serve with British but not directly under de Gaulle. Can this be accepted. Fear response will be small as men are threatened by Officers. (C.in C., S.A. 1929/9)

THURSO BANK SOLOY

Due Capetown 4/11 from U.K. and Durban 4/11 from Gibraltar, both not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0945B/9)

Mediterranean

Movements

Summary No 167 (C. in C., Med., 0303/9)

A.S. 5.

Convoy A.S. 5. leaves Piraeus p.m./10 for Port Said. Route. (C. in C., Med. 0303/9)

C.S. 18. MANCHESTER

Pass Admty. 1633/8 addressed C. in C., Med and Force H., to C.S. 18 (D.O.D.(H) 1020/9 to MANCHESTER) Admty. 1633/8. The flag of C.S. 18 will be flown in MANCHESTER. (D.O.D. (F) to C. in C., Med and Force H 1906/9)

U-Boat Report

See U-Boat Campaign.

Convoys, Malta

Situation re further convoys has become greatly complicated for several reasons. F.O.i/c Malta is sending you now copy of proposals I have made to D. of S.T. These proposals would solve present problem but are dependant on your approval to bring 3 ships with a minimum speed of 16 knots here during operation "Collar" If you are prepared to do this, request D. of S.T. may be informed immediately. (Govr. Malta to C. in C., Med. 1307/9 and to D. of S.T. 1820/9)

Trapani

Air reconnaissance on North Sicilian ports shows 3 destroyers in Trapani. (V.A.Malta, 1455/9)

/Aircraft Crews...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Aircraft Crews

C. in C. Med's 1057/8. Please send any surplus Wellington crews to Gibraltar. We will arrange homeward passage from there We would employ them to fly additional Wellingtons to M.E. (Air Min. to H.Q., Malta, 1720/9)

Suda Bay Defences

Requirements for (W.O. to C. in C., M.E. 2230/9)

Policy

Your 1749/5 paragraph 4. The denial from Vichy has been available to us for some time but our information from other sources does not support it entirely. No reply has been received by H.M.G. to specific enquiry as to where Vichy Government stands whilst we know Petain and Laval have publicly indicated their intention of concluding an agreement to collaborate with Hitler, thus doing injury to us, and aiming to support Hitler's plan of a "so-called" new order in Europe. H.M.G. must determine their action in the light of these facts. (1st S.L. 0046/9 to C. in C., Med.)

Greek Situation

My 1229/8.
(c) Whole of coast North of Acheron river is clear of Greek troops, (d) and (e) Re suitable objectives for bombardment.
(f) British Air Commodore asks whether any co-operation from land based aircraft is possible if you bombard Italian right flank.
(g) Greeks worried at heavy movements between Italy and Albania. Urgency of doing everything possible to interfere Italian line of communications.
(h) Greek N.A. in Berlin reports that Italian N.A. Berlin has said that Italian scheme of operations envisages occupation of coast opposite Corfu as a first phase Second phase will be occupation of Corfu and organization of a protected base in Straits to ensure supplies to Army. (N.A. Athens, 1623/9 to C. in C., Med,)

Air Reconnaissance

Air recon. of Sicilian ports.
Palermo, eight destroyers one merchant vessels of 8,000 tons one merchant vessel of 2,000 tons.
Messina, seven destroyers, three large submarines, four merchant vessels of 6,000 tons each, one liner believed to be REX Augusta, two cruisers CONDOTTIERI class five destroyers. (V.A.Malta, 1753/9)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Operation "Collar"

Your 1231/8. Realised that the number of personnel to be embarked is large but the urgency of these reinforcements is such that the difficulties must be accepted. None of the men can be embarked in NEW ZEALAND STAR.
F.O.Force (H) will be arranging the allocation of personnel ex FRANCONIA to ships going to Alexandria.
Admty. 1633/8 has been passed to you.
(D.O.D. (F) 1859/9 amended 2358/9)

M.N.B.D.O.

M.N.B.D.O. is at present dispersed for coast defence in U.K. It could be re-assembled in about 5 weeks and might be made available in Middle East if you forsee any useful purpose for it. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S. 1941/9 to C. in C., Med.)

East Indies

Aden, Policy

Your 0348/4. Share your view, but resources do not permit further reduction for this purpose expense other theatres M.E., (Details of support given to Greece) View still held that major land threat Aden unlikely to materialise. (C. in C's., M.E., to C. in C., E.I., 1114/9)

Assab Bombed

Operational Summary for 24 hours ending 1500/9. 1 Blenheim 8 Sqdn. armed reconnaissance Assab attacked warehouses and store sheds, 0515 hours. Photographs show one bomb near miss small square buildin No fighters. 1 extra ship 6000 tons amongst islands total now 6. 2 Blenheim IV's 203 Squadron proceeded Kamaran for convoy duties 10/11. All times G.M.T. (A.H.Q. Aden no T.O.O./9)

French Ships

My 0908/7, re French ships to be detained for examination. Add French sloop D'ENCASTREUX, MIN and CAP PADARAN. (C. in C., E.I. 07342/9)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

LIVATHO

Admty. 1307/8. LIVATHO will bring back cargo badly needed. French have guaranteed not to detain ship.
Request decision as ship is being held up at Singapore. (C. in C., China, 0515Z/9 to Admty.)

Indo-China Export Licenses Refused LIVATHO

As from 15/11 export license will be refused for all goods shipped to Indo-China from U.K. and Colonial ports. Request you ensure no British or Allied ships are in Indo-China ports on above date in view of liklihood of reprisals. Your 0441/6. In view of above, considered undesirable that LIVATHO should be allowed to proceed to Saigon. (Hd. of M. 2357/9)

Haiphong

Your 0756/8. No concentration of transports at Haiphong Details of transport traffic (Vice Consul Haiphong, to C.O.I.C. Singapore, 0723Z/9) Passed to Admty. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 1639Z/9).

N.E.I. Navy

My 0315/7. Dutch Naval C. in C., takes instructions from Governor General and not from London. Suggest Dutch Govt. in London instruct Govr. Gen. to permit discussion provided no diplomatic commitments involved. (C. in C., China 1213/Z/9 to Admty.)

America & West Indies

Raider Attack on H.X. 84

British ships PACIFIC ENTERPRISE and CORDELIA both from convoy H.X. 84 arrived here undamaged today. Former has now left for Halifax.
Master of PACIFIC ENTERPRISE convinced raider is German Armoured Ship ADMIRAL SCHEER Class but some officers and men say raider had funnel same as RESOLUTION and a few that there was a light cruiser in addition.
Master of CORDELIA admits possibility of two raiders in view of remarkably swift movement but definite about tripod raking and with large fore top.
Other special points. About 9 ships are thought to have been fired on.
(N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F. 2230/9 to Admty)

/PRINCE ROBERT.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

PRINCE ROBERT — My 1731/30. Proceed into Talcahuano (date) Orders for patrol, and instructions for BISHOPDALE (C. in C., A.W.I., 1722/9)

Convoy B.H.X. 86 — Following ships forming port wing column of B.H.X. parted company from convoy during 180° turn at 0130 Q on 6th/11. HOLMPARK, BUESTEN and SOENJIT. Ships have been ordered by W/T to return to Bermuda or Halifax, 4th ocean escort MONTCLARE reports TASSO leading ship of column behavior quite inexcusable. Visibility two miles. Suggst investigation on arrival of ships in harbour. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1032/9 to Admty, etc.,)

Australia

CAMBRIDE
CITY OF RAYVILLE
suspected minelaying — CAMBRIDE sank off Wilson's promotory night 7-8/11 CITY OF RAYVILLE sank off Cape Otway night 8-9/11. Minelaying suspected. Bass Strait closed to shipping (A.C.N.B.Melbourne, 0501Z/9 to C. in C., S.A.) A.C.N.B. 1315/8. Request particulars regarding loss of CAMBRIDGE be communicated Lloyd's, London. (A.C.N.B., 1847/Z/9)

New Zealand

Greek Shipping — Your 1919/4 (re Greek ships in Japanes Waters) Following received from Suva, (begins) Telegram from Livanos New Yprk to Nauru quotes that London instructs AXIOS (Greek) and EVINOS (Greek) are to proceed towards Colombo (ends) Telegram is being held pending your decision. (S.O.I., Wellington, 0044/9 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

AEQUITAS

My 1806/26. H.M.G. having approved movement of AEQUITAS to Rio de Janeiro with Brazilian officer on board to prevent irregularities. I will report when vessel sails. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1535/9)

ANTARKTIS

2- 10 ton lorries arrived with provisions which are being loaded. (Acting consul, Vigo, 1846/9) (D.D.I.C. 0254/10 to F.O.C.N.A

NORDERNEY

Following from Navy Dept. NORDERNEY loading 1,000 tons of coal at Para. Crew of 14 men seven officers included five German Officers and eight men who came from Santos. Opinion in Brazil is that her departure may be soon. (N.A.Washington, 1255/9)

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS

TERESA ODERO

My 1648/8. Coracas reports fuel for harbour use only and all Italian ships at Puerto Cabello interned. (S.O.I., Kingston 2028/9)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

CYPRUS

SSSS Submarine or struck a mine 36.21 N., 7.38 W., CYPRUS. (Gibraltar W/T no T.0.00 recd. 0816/9) S/M on surface bearing 220° 6 miles steering S.E., My p.c.s. 36.21 N., 7.34 W., 052, 8 knots. (CYPRUS 0803/9) (C. in C., W.A. 0807/9) SSSS received addressed to all stations via Lands End 36.21 N., 7.38 W., CYPRUS (C. in C., W.A., to Admty. 0700/9, recd. 0848)

U-Boat Tactics

Admty 2027/14/10. Information now received confirms conclusion drawn. Emphasises necessity for (a) utmost vigilance of night look outs (b) Fitting of A.S.V. in escort ships. (c) Improving hydrophone performance of our asdics. Action re (b) and (c) being taken (D.A.S.W. to C. in C., W.A. 1516/9)
Escort vessels in convoys attacked by U-boats to forward a track chart to D.A.S.W. (C. in C., W.A., 1042/9)

Submarines Reported

0139 — 56° to 58° N., 17° to 21° W., position very indefinite (D.S. 431)

0218 — W. of Ireland in about 52° N., Italian U/B position indefinite (D.S. 431)

1206 — 58° to 59° N., 25° W., very indefinite (D.S. 432)

1237 — 55.30 N., to 56.30 N., 17° to 21° W., position indefinite (D.S. 432)

Ushant

A/C X/812 now reports that at 1945/9/11 he observed a small vessel possibly a submarine 045/Ushant/15 miles. He flashed the letter of the period many times but received no reply. As A/C was outward bound for Lorient, pilot decided not to waste bombs on uncertain secondary target. (St. Eval, 1000/10 to 15 group)

Mediterranean

One enemy U-Boat on surface in 36.05 N., 13.44 E., dived on being sighted by A/C at 0934 zone minus 2. (V.A.Malta 1039/9)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.11.1940
Saturday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported-Contd.

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions

Italian 1 may be in area 50° to 51° N., 15° to 17° West, proceeding to Bordeaux.
1 may still be in Azores area.
German 1 may be in area 53° to 54° N., 16° to 18° W. proceeding to Lorient.
1 was in 56° N., 17° 50' W., at 1446/8.
1 was in area 56° to 58° N., 17° to 21° W at 0139/9
2 more in N.W. Approached or farther W. whereabouts unknown. (D.D.I.C. 1244/9)

Your attack sounded most promising. Round up what you can. You will probably be required for escort duties on 15/11. (C-in-C W.A., (1922/9 to HAVELOCK)

47

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

REPULSE reported at 1800 that she had swept through 55° N., 30° W., 56° N., 32° W, 60° N., 27° W. Tw destroyers are in company.
No sign of wreckage was seen, but the weather and visibility were very bad.

SOUTHAMPTON from Denmark Straits patrol is proceeding to Belfast for Operation "COLLAR"

Home Fleet units are patrolling the Iceland Faroes passage

The Shetland Command was abolished today and Flag Officer Commanding, Orkney resumed the functions of Flag Officer Commanding Orkney and Shetland (A.C.O.S.) Executive control of all defence operations in the Shetlands in event of hostile action will be exercised by the Army Officer in local command of Army units.

SEA GEM Missing

Tug SEA GEM from Middlesborough 30/10 due Dundee 31/10 has not arrived. All enquiries have failed to trace the ship.

MONIQUE

Lloyds state that the French tanker MONIQUE (7011 tons) which left Oran 6/6 homeward bound from Haifa is reported to have been sunk off the coast of France later in that month.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Bomber Command

The submarine base at Lorient was attacked last night. Results were not observed.

Attacks were made today on Boulogne and Calais. At the former, bursts were seen on a concentration of barges and on Dock No. 6. At Calais Docks Nos 5 and 6 were hit.

Coastal Command

Aircraft of Coastal Command also attacked the submarine base at Lorient last night. The power station was straddled and a heavy calibre bomb appeared to fall on the dry dock and another on the T.B. Station or its oiling jetty.

Routine patrols were extended to the Norwegian and Danish coasts.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

This morning, a single enemy aircraft dropped 18 small H.E. bombs in Dover Harbour and at the same time another aircraft dropped a similar number in the sea north east of Dungeness. No damage or casualties occurred at either place. The attacks appeared deliberate and not mere jettisoning, and V.A.Dover suggests that these and similar occurrances previously may be attempts to countermine our land mine defences or locate them.

Portsmouth was bombed this evening. No naval damage occurred.

Bombs were dropped this morning on several S.E. Coast Towns. The Naval Hospital and R.N. Barracks at Yarmouth was slightly damaged.

ROYAL EAGLE was unsuccessfully bombed in the Thames Estuary this afternoon.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Minelaying by enemy aircraft was evident last night in the Thames Estuary-Harwich-North Foreland and probably off the North-East coast of England. Mines were dropped in Penzance and Newlyn areas and these ports were closed at 1330.

Mines were found off Knob L.V., and in Fowey Channel (slightly damaging a Belgian fishing vessel)

Last night, more mines were dropped by enemy aircraft in the approaches to Plymouth, and C. in C., W.A. estimates there are at least 15 mines situated within one mile fo the breakwater lighthouse.

ST MELANTE — M/STrawler ST MELANTE detonated one today and was damaged.

KINGSTON ALALITE — A/STrawler KINGSTON ALALITE was sunk in the searched channel this afternoon in a position which had been swept and passed over by several sweepers during the day.

NEWCASTLE, due to leave yesterday for an operation simultaneous with Operation "White" has not been sailed and no certain date can be given when it will be safe to do so. The port is closed.

MARCELLE
Sunk — Belgian Balloon trawler MARCELLE was sunk in the Bristol Channel today, believed mined (D.S. D.O.R.)

Fleetwood, Lancaster and Heysham were opened this afternoon. Humber and Milford Haven were closed this evening.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

Libreville was occupied by Free French today.

North Atlantic

RENOWN on relief p.m. today by AUSTRALIA in covering homeward bound Atlantic convoys left for Gibraltar.

South Atlantic

ROYAL SOVEREIGN left Freetown this afternoon to cover Convoys S.L.S54 and S.L. 54 as far as the latitude of Madeira, after which ROYAL SOVEREIGN is to proceed to Gibraltar.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Enemy aircraft last night bombed Matruh without result. Bombs were also dropped in the Alexandria area this evening but no damage or casualties were caused. A single plane, after a prolonged reconnaissance of the Canal Area dropped 10 bombs without causing any damage.

Convoy M.E. 3 escorted by RAMILLIES (arrived Malta p.m/9 with COVENTRY, 8 destroyers, a minesweeper and an oiler) left Malta p.m. today for Alexandria.

TERROR left Malta at 1400 today with VENDETTA for Suda Bay where she is to act as guard ship temporarily.

Operation "Coat"

Force F (BARHAM, BERWICK, GLASGOW, GRIFFIN GREYHOUND, and GALLANT) joined C. in C., Meditn. at 1015 today and entered Malta 2 hours later to disembark troops and to fuel. During the outward passage of the Meditn. Fleet ILLUSTRIOUS shot down two Cants and 2 S.79's. All ships of the Meditn. Fleet cleared the Grand Harbour by 2020 for offensive operations inthe Ionian Sea. During the stay of the Fleet at Malta the only enemy air operation was a reconnaissance by fighters, one of which dived and machine-gunned Hal Far, slightly damaging one Swordfish.

Bombardment of Sidi Barrani

Last night, APHIS working with a flare dropping aircraft successfully bombarded enemy positions at Sidi Barrani. The Shore Batteries returned her fire, but caused no damage.

Air Attacks Naples

5 Wellingtons bombed Naples successfully last night.

Sarande Konispol Bay

3 Blenheims today attacked the harbour at Sarande on the Albanian coast and jetties at Konispol Bay (Greek Albanian frontier) At Sarande one bomb fell near a 7000 ton merchant vessel and other bombs damaged docks. At Konispol Bay a jetty was demolished and a road junction damaged.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

At 1341Z roday Norwegian SS OLE JACOBS reported being shelled between Colombo and Penang. The message was then cancelled but C. in C., E.I. did not consider the cancellation genuine. At 1430Z an incomplete message of a disguised raider was received, near Comor Is.
This report was cancelled at 1508Z, the cancellation being considered genuine.
C. in C., E.I. ordered CAPETOWN (from Nancowry) CANBERRA, WESTRALIA, and DURBAN (at Penang) to search, these ships to be known as Force V. CRICKET is returning to Nancowry and H.Q. Far East have been asked to send a flying boat there.

CHAKDINA with BHIMA in tow and tug PROTECTOR in company has not been in W/T touch since 2022Z/9 when she was N.E. of Sokotra, in approximately the centre of a cyclonic storm reported by KANDAHAR about 1200Z/9. SHROPSHIRE has been sent to search for CHAKDINA and assist, and should arrive in the area a.m. tomorrow.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

10.11.1940
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

America & West Indies

Reports indicate the possibility that enemy merchant vessels in Mexican Gulf ports may attempt to sail in the near futire. DIOMEDE and VAN KINSBERGEN are at the Eastern end of the Caribbean Sea. (See 6/11) and the latter is due for refit when CARADOC's Turbine defects are completed. C. in C., A.W.I. asks for the return of DESPATCH and DUNEDIN as soon as they can be spared.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Shetland Command Abolished.

As from the 10/11, the Shetland Command will be abolished and Flag Officer Commanding, Orkney, will resume the functions of Flag Officer Commanding Orkney and Shetland (short title A.C.O.S.) as they were before the Shetland Command came into being.

The War Office are appointing an officer in local command of the Army units in the Shetlands who will take executive control of all defence operations in the Shetlands in event of hostile action.

The administrative channels of communication are under consideration by the War Office and will be promulgated.
(D. of L.D.1427/10).

KILISSI.

(French, 3723 Tons). My 1730/8. If escorted, KILISSI is not to be intercepted.
(F.O.C.N.P. 2150/10 to Western Patrol).

Defence of United Kingdom.

DELUGE.

At 1130/10 (D.C.1201/10). At 1800/10. (D.C.1842/10). At 2330/10. (D.C.2355/10).

Rosyth A/A Defences.

C.in C. Rosyth 1637/5. Request consideration to provision of Guns for Site R.N.G.8 if possible from December allocation. If Rosyth used by Main Units before R.N.G.8 permanently filled, request that Mobile Section fitted R.D.G. may be temporarily provided.
(D. of L.D.1617/10 to Air Ministry).

Scapa Defences.

Progress Report on 10/11. (R.A.Scapa 2015/10 to Adty).

MOST SECRET.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

WINDSOR. VESPER. VENOMOUS.	If EMPRESS OF JAPAN does not need assistance after passing Altacarry, you are then to leave her and proceed to Londonderry. (C.in C. W.A.0030/10 to WINDSOR).
RHODODENDRON.	On arrival at Bar Light Vessel, set watch to Oiler WAR PATHAN at Buoy in 125° Rock Ferry Pier Head Light 6 cables and remain there after oiling. (Capt: D. Liverpool 0254/10 to RHODODENDRON).
SIKH SOMALI EXMOOR PYTCHLEY DOUGLAS VIMY.	Unless other instructions received intend (a) SIKH relieve SOMALI in HOOD screen allowing SOMALI to boiler clean as arranged. (b) EXMOOR and PYTCHLEY proceed to Scapa on arrival Faroes. Return escort for ADDA to be provided by DOUGLAS and VIMY or other destroyers in the vicinity of Faroes as convenient. (F.O.C. D.F. H.F. 1115/10 to C.in C. H.F.)
Northern Patrol Lines.	Orders for alteration of Lines on 21/11. (F.O.C.N.P. 1510/9 to Northern Patrol).
Orkneys.	Estimated positions at 2000/10. (A.C.O.S. 1539/10).
CURACOA.	Leave Convoy on arrival in Pentland Firth and enter Scapa. (R.A.D. H.F. 1604/10 to CURACOA).
Nore and Harwich.	Movements Summary. (N.O.I.C. Harwich 1704/10 to GUILLEMOT).
LETITIA.	C.in C. H.F. 1246/9. LETITIA ready to sail from Clyde when ordered. (F.O.C.N.P. 1930/10 to F.O.C. 1st B.C.S.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Mistaken Report of Raider.

Warship Raider in 40° 10'N., 18° 20'W. Unknown Ship. (Scapa W/T Recd. 0950/10) SALOPIAN is in 40° 18' 30" N., 18° 19'W. at 0950, approaching Merchant Ship. (SALOPIAN 0950/10 to V.A.N.P) Estimate this may be SALOPIAN. (F.O.C.N.A. 1034/10 to Adty). Chase Raider. (D.C.1115/10 to RENOWN) Cancel 1115/10. (V.C.N.S. 1133/10 to RENOWN) Cancel RRRR 0950 (D.C.1142 and 1143/10).

ADMIRAL SCHEER.

MAORI, KEPPEL, BEAGLE sailed from Skaale Fiord to R/V with C.in C. H.F. in 62° 46'N., 11° 58'W., at 1200/11. (MAORI 1600/10 to R.A.D).

Norwegian SOLFONN (9925 Tons) reports that at 1730/5 Convoy was attacked by German Raider of SCHEER class in 52° 44'N., 32° 14'W., when Convoy dispersed. It was noted that an unkno M/V was continually in sight of Convoy from 1200/5 until Raider appeared. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1756/10 to Adty).

My position 58° 32'N., 11° 25'W., course 80° , speed 15 knots. MATABELE and ELECTRA in company.

BONAVENTURE and MASHONA detached to search for survivors. REPULSE swept through 55° N., 30'W., 56°N, 32° W, 60°N, 27°W. (REPULSE 1800/10 to C.in C. H.F).

Further to my 1756. Convoy HX84, 36 ships approx; 9 columns of 4 ships. SOLFONN was rear ship of Seventh column number 74,following is brief description of events. At 1700 dusk falling commodore drew attention to bearing 350°, course of convoy 067°. At 1710 course of convoy was altered to 40° to starboard. During turn fire was opened by raider hull down bearing 353°. Commodore and ships in port column opened fire at once and smoke screen was laid. Convoy scattered by signal. S.S. BEAVERBROOK was in company with SOLFONN until 2030 approx. when she was fired on and altered course. Six ships seen to be hit,

/none

MOST SECRET.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations (Contd).

ADMIRAL SCHEER.

none actually seen to sink. Firing continued in moonlight until 2300. No ships were in sight at daybreak of 6th November. The unknown merchant ship disappeared in direction of raider at approx: 1600. Details of this ship not known yet. Raider which remained hull down appeared to be ADMIRAL SCHEER or Nurnberg Class. No Aircraft seen or heard. No information of size of splashes owing to inexperienc of 1st officer. Speed of SOLFONN 9 knots.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2012/10 to Adty).

Convoy S.L.53 with ARAWA and H.G.46 with WELLINGTON now concentrated. At 2359/9 Convoys were in position 042° 23' N., 020° 56'W course 350 degrees 5 knots. RENOWN DERBYSHIRE CAMITO covering. Have ordered these 2 convoys to remain concentrated unless otherwise and proceed in company to position D.050° 00'N.,023° 00'W thence to the rendezvous with H.G. escort in position 052° 30'N., 018° 00'W. S.L.53 is capable of a good 8 knots speed of advance, but H.G. only 5. Shortage of fuel in ships of H.G. may have to fuel at Irish port. 2 ships in S.L.F. 53 have fuel for 10 days remainder more. S.L.53 slow 4 ships only just located in position 041° 50' N., 021° 57'W., at 2359/9 course north, speed 7 knots. Will order CAMITO to join them tomorrow and then close them on H.G. Other 2 ships of convoy are in time. HAMLA engine trouble, CREE gone on ahead. Intend leaving convoy at 1900/10 to R/V with ARGUS at 1000/11 in position 040° 39' 015° 33' based on Admiralty's 0106/8 to RENOWN which appears to conflict with F.O.C.N.A. 1132/8 to ARGUS. All times B.S.T. (RENOWN). (0045/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Contd.)

Operation "Collar".

Adty. 0012/9. FURIOUS and NEW ZEALAND STAR sail Bar Light Vessel 1230/15. Route to 54° 20'N., 5° W. where R/V with SOUTHAMPTON at 1800/15. Route thence to 58o 36'N., 9o 36'W. where R/V with C.S.18 in MANCHESTER from Rosyth and with DIDO, FRANCONIA, CLAN FORBES, and CLAN FRAZER from Clyde at 0830/16. Route thence to 51° N., 20° W., whence FURIOUS and DIDO to 11 N., 20° W and Takoradi and rest routed to Gibraltar. (C.in C. W.A. 1217/10 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

CLAN FORBES to be known as M.T.I, CLAN FRAZER as M.T.2, and NEW ZEALAND STAR as M.T.5. C.in C. Med. requested to arrange onward passage from Malta of Naval Personnel in M.T.1 and M.T.2. (D.O.D. F. 2248/10 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

NOTE: For route see FURIOUS above.

Iceland.

Adty 1632/10 and my 1440/9 and (?)0001/9. HONNINGSVAAG sailed 1530/9 G.M.T. and WISTARIA 1650/10 G.M.T. No further news of Norwegian F.P.Vessel FRIDTJOF NANSEN. (F.O.I.C. Iceland 1618/10 to Adty).

My 2106/9 and your 1440/9. It is important that the 2 ships should proceed in company. Have you any further news of FRIDTJOF NANSEN. (A.C.N.S. H. 1632/10 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).

TALISMAN with Prize Crew.

To sail for Patrol 16/11 to relieve TRIDENT, taking a Prize Crew of six for separate operation. See Operations Volume. (V.A.S. 1011/10 to S.2).

Submarines.

TALISMAN.

To sail for Patrol 16/11 to relieve TRIDENT off Lorient. See Operations. (V.A.S. 1011/10 to S.2).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Submarines. (Cond.)

H.28, H.32, H.43, H.50.) C.in C. W.A. 1639/7 and Adty 1842/5. Request H.28 be sailed to join 7th S/M Flotilla at Rothesay. H.32 will be available to proceed Londonderry on 20/11. Intend to relieve H.43 at Holyhead by H.50 about 25/11. (Capt: S.7 1011/10 to V.A.S.)

Positions. For following 24 hours at 0700/11. (V.A.S.1656/10).

CLYDE. To be sailed for Devonport for refit as soon as this can be conveniently arranged. (V.A.S.1909/10 to S.2).

British Air Activity.

Lorient. Attacked by 5 Swordfish till 0015/10 and by 3 Beauforts till 0120/10. Details. (H.Q.C.C. 0500/10 to Air Ministry).

Rosyth. My 2012/9. Cancel para.2 and substitute following parallel track Search. (C.in C. Rosyth 0848/10).

One Anson A/C escorting Convoy E.N.21 will be visiting you periodically. (C.in C. Rosyth 1030/10 to PYTCHLEY, EXMOOR)

P.M. Sortie of Patrol S.A1A. is cancelled today owing to weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 1424/10 to Adty). My 1424. Southern half only of SA.1. was eventually flown. (C.in C. Rosyth 2028/10 to Adty).

Air Search for 11/11 as in paras 1 and 2 of my 2012/9. (C.in C. Rosyth 2042/10).

Bombing of Coastal Batteries. Requested between Calais and Ambleteuse from 0415 to 0545 on 13/11 during passage of C.E.16 through Straits of Dover. (C.in C. Nore 1026/10 to Adty

At 1406/10 in 53° 33'N., 6° 39'E. A/C attacked a stationary M/V 5000 Tons with Torpedo. Presume missed.

At 1408/10 in same position A/C attacked M/V believed SAARLAND. Torpedo missed.

At 1405/10 in same position A/C attacked stationary M/V 5000 to 6000 tons. Torpedo missed. (Chatham A.C.H.Q.1855/10

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Report of Attack on Convoys.

Your 1758/8. Only one such attack. since 1/10, namely on 6/11 on Convoy W.N.31. Particulars. Suggest that Blenheim aircraft fitted with I.F.F. should be used for these Escorts. (A.C.O.S. 1258/10 to Adty).

EMPIRE DORADO. (British, 5595 Tons).

(Bombed and abandoned on 8/11). 34 of Crew landed Belfast p.m/9. 8 killed, 4 seriously wounded, 2 slightly. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1315/10 to Adty).

Yarmouth.

One bomb fell in R.N.B. grounds. Some damage to buildings. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1729/10 to Adty). Large Bomb landed near S.W. corner of New Hospital Buildings at Yarmouth at 1700. No material damage to walls, but £400 worth of Glass and Window-Frames gone. (O.C.W. Whotley 1815/10 to C.E. in C.)

Dover.

At 0956/10 one A/C dropped 18 small H.E. Bombs in Dover Harbour. No damage or casualties. May be attempt to locate or countermine our land Mine Defences. (V.A. Dover 1941/10 to Adty).

Dungeness.

At 0956/10 one A/C dropped 18 small H.E. bombs in the sea N.N.E. of Dungeness. (V.A. Dover 1941/10 to Adty).

Mining.

Falmouth.

Port closed owing to mines. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 0340/10 to C.in C. W.A.) Cancel my 0340/10. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth 0535/10 to C.in C. W.A.)

Penzance and Newlyn.

Mines have been dropped by enemy A/C in Penzance and Newlyn areas. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 0705/10 to C.in C. W.A.)

Ports of Penzance and Newlyn closed. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1330/10 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Sheerness. — Red mine detonated 049° Knob Light Vessel 5 cables far inside. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 0845/10 to C.in C. Nore).

Enemy mine jettisoned. — Enemy mines jettisoned 045° 45'N., 004° 40'W. (V.A.S. 1144/10 to S/Ms on patrol in Area B).

Operation B.S.46. — Postponed another 24 hours on account of weather. (S.O. Minelayers Immingham 1215/10 to Admiralty).

S.N.43 and 45. — Your 1711/9 (re proposal to sail and course). Concur. (D.D.O.D.(M) 1249/10 to R.A(M.L))(C.in C. W.A. 1529/1(to R.A.(M.L))

Fleetwood)
Lancaster)
Heysham.) — Cancel my 1750/9 (ports closed). Ports are now open. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1500/10 to Admiralty).

Search. — Intend to sail of Fleet minesweepers S O NIGER 11/11 to carry out high percentage search East of Centre line of 148 QZS from N.W. Swin to Z and back to the junction of QZF. Request fighter protection from 0830 to 1730/11. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1658/10 to C.in C. Nore).

Fowey. — Cut one mine in Fowey Channel 50° 10' 16" N., 4° 47' 36" W., mine exploded astern Belgian fishing vessel 50° 7' 29" N., 5° 01' 00" W., presumed accoustic. Vessel slightly damaged but now moored in harbour. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1926/10 to Admiralty).

KINGSTON ALALITE. — A/S trawler sunk by mine 242° 5.7 cables from Plymouth breakwater light. 15 survivors, including 11 casualties 8 missing. (C.in C. W.A. 1942/10 to Admiralty)

Your 1628/9 and 1706/9. Sunk in searched channel at 1723/10 outside breakwater which had been swept and passed over by several sweepers during the day. (C.in C. W.A. 2254/10 to Admiralty)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Plymouth.

Port is closed proceed to Brixham. (C.in C. W.A. 2020/10 SASEBO).

Your 1628/9 and 1706/9. During night 9/10 mines dropped by enemy A/C in Approaches to Plymouth. Mines so placed that no advantage in instituting new channel. Positions searched by LL and by Trawler fitted with Kango Hammer, consider in present form not sufficiently powerful. NEWCASTLE has not been sailed. (C.in C. W.A. 2254/10 to Admiralty).

Your 1909/10. Owing to minelaying port is closed and it may not be possible to receive CLYDE for some days. (C.in C. W.A. 2356/10 to V.A.S).

Since my 1536/9 one mine detonated by depth charge Breakwater Light 221° 7.5 cables p.m.9/10. Mine detonated by Kango Hammer in trawler SF MELANTE Breakwater Light 225° 9.5 cables course S 25 W m.a.g. speed 8.5 knots helm amidships explosion 15 yards from bridge starboard side. My 1536/9 trawler ELK was proceeding slow ahead wheel hard to starboard. (C.in C. W.A. 1946/10 to Admiralty).

Humber.

Port is closed. (F.O. Humber 2045/10 to Admiralty).

Milford Haven.

Port is closed, mines laid by A/C. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2113/10 to Admiralty).

LOWESTOFT
WOOLSTON.

Cancel my 1821/- re 50% Oropesa search (C.in C. Rosyth 2228/9 to LOWESTOFT and WOOLSTON).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Trondheim.	At 1315/10, in Trondheim Bay, 2 Tankers at anchor. One 10 to 12,000 Tons, the other about 6000 Tons. A/C report. (C.in C. Rosyth 1700/10 to Adty).
Norwegian Coast.	M/V's seen from 1337/10 to 1415/10. (C.in C. Rosyth 1700/10 to Adty).
Havre, Caen, Ouistreham, Fecamp, Dieppe.	Shipping and Barges at 1045/10. (PIU 1810/10 to N.I.D.)
Borkum, Norderney.	M/V's seen 1410/10 to 1508/10. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1855/10).
TANNENBERG.	At 1433/10 in 53° 51'N., 7° 36'E., an M/V, believed TANNENBERG, camouflaged grey and black, steering N.E. at 15 knots. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1855/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

RICHMOND CASTLE. (British, 7798 Tons). In collision off Corsewall Point. Damaged bow seriously. Proceeding to Clyde. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0540/10 to Adty).

ALEXIA.
(Torpedoed 2/8/40)
GREEN PASTURES.
(Drifter).
NORTHCOATES.
(Trawler).

N.O.I.C. Kirkwall 1106/9. Intend sailing Tug FAIRPLAY I at 1300/10 for Kirkwall to assist towage of ALEXIA. ATLANTIC COCK will tow GREEN PASTURES to Buckie and then proceed to Oban. NORTHCOATES will remain at Scapa awaiting towage to Aberdeen. (A.C.O.S.1144/10 to Adty).

SEA GEM. (Tug, 86 Tons, 8 knots) Passed South Gare W.S.S. at 0515/30/10. Expected time of arrival Dundee 1600/31/10, anchoring for night inside Farne Islands. N.C.S.O. Dundee's 1051/4/11 to me reports ship not arrived. All inquiries have failed to trace her. (N.C.S.O. Middlesborough 1629/10 to Adty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys.
F.N.32.)
F.S.33.) Corvette escort SHEARWATER. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1031/10).

O.B.239. Code word "Curly". (C.in C. W.A. 1111/10 to BROKE, MALCOLM, etc.)

O.B.241. Code word "Siege" (C.in C. W.A. 1111/10 to BROKE, MALCOLM, Etc.)

HX84. Convoy report having been missed by torpedo in position 055° 44'N., 010° 00' W., at 0905. I have 10 ships. Request confirmation that all ships are to proceed Clyde as ordered in your 2103/6. (HESPERUS, 1051/10 to C.in C. W.A.) Weather. Not met. My position 56.07N., 09.32W (FLEUR DE LYS, 0917/10). Request reply to my 1051 as convoy is now at splitting point. (HESPERUS 1605/10 to C.in C. W.A.) Your 1051/10. Accompany ships to Clyde, escorts then return to base. (C.in C. W.A. 1657/10 to HESPERUS) Asking for any informatio about raider attack. (1 S.L. to BONAVENTURE, 2218/10).

S.C.10. Not met. (WALKER, 1030/10).

HX85. Ships returned from Convoy H.X.85. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 1130/10).

S.L.53.)
H.G.46.) Position and routes. (RENOWN, 0045/10 amended 0843/10). See Operations, Raider

General. Before altering course for last position of your ocean route continue on present course for an additional 260 miles. Then steer for last position of your ocean route. (D.T.D., 1647/10 to all British ships, Area 1).

E.N.23. Escort HUGH WALPOLE, DRAGNEY additional escort GLEANER. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1118/10)

O.B.M.242. Escort DERBY COUNTY. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven, 0845/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping. (Contd.)

HX. 87.
HX. 88.
SC. 12.

Your 1654/9. H.X.87, H.X.88 and S.C.12 sailing to be confirmed later. Route. It is anticipated B.H.X.86 will not be in time to bunker and store until H.X. 89. (N.O.I.C. Halifax, 1434/10, to Admiralty etc.)

H.X.88.

In view of your 1659/9, are arrangements in your 1829/4 for H.X.88 to be sailed to keep rendezvous (date) to be adhered to.
(C.in C. A. W.I. 1651/10 to Adty).

E.N. Evading Air Attack.

Times of departure of E.N. Convoys are to be adjusted to allow for the Convoy altering course 100° at 1 hour before sunset resuming their original course at sunset. The use of this manoeuvre to evade enemy air attacks must be depen dant on weather conditions and the speed made good.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1203/10).

U/Boat Attacks, use of W/T.

Commodores and Masters to be informed that if a U/Boat attacks a convoy when an A/S escort is in company, ships attacked or in immediate vicinity may break W/T silence to report immediately any information indicating whereabouts o of submarine which might be of value to the escort.

On no account must W/T silence be broken without definite evidence of an attack and silence should be resumed after the attack is finished. Instructions in A.M.S.I. 19 and Consigs. Article 4 to be amended accordingly. (D.T.D. 1058/10).

Troop Convoys.

LADY OF MAN.

To sail from Douglas. I.O.M. to Liverpool with 900 troops on 14/11. (D.O.D.(H) 1915/10).

LEOPOLDVILLE.

To sail from Liverpool with 900 personne to R/V with REVENGE on 12/11 and proceed with that ship to Halifax. (D.O.D.(H) to C.in C. W.A. 2126/10 amended 1015/11)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations against Vichy French.

Sinking of PONCELET.

Adty. 2345/9. Reply direct via Freetown repeated C.S.1. (C.S.1. to MILFORD, 0346A/10). Your 2345/9. MILFORD was 20 miles (227°?) From Cape Lopez the nearest land when explosion was felt at 1425 on 7/11. (F.O.C.S.I. to Adty 0711A/10).

N.A. Madrid 1852/8. DEVONSHIRE's Walrus, the only British seaplane in the area, did not fly on 4/11. (C.S.I to Adty 0807A/10). Add to my 0807A. French Submarine PONCELET at Port Gentil bombed by Free French Blenheims on this date. French sloop BOUGAINVILLE was also attacked on passage. (C.S.I to Adty. 0821A/10). Was PONCELET attacked by any British Forces on any day except 7/11 when she scuttled herself? (1 S.L. to C.S.I 1939/10). Your 1939. No. (C.S.I. 2346/10).

Libreville Occupied.

My 1841A/9. French sloop SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA reports Libreville has agreed to terms of French S.N.O. for cessation of hostilities. (C.S.I to Adty. 0120A/10). Libreville occupied by Free French at 1100 today. Owing to lack of communications occupation of Port Gentil will be subject to special agreement entailing some delay. Free French request continuation of British covering operations. (F.O.I.C.S. to Admty). (1421A/10).

D'ENTRECASTEAUX.

Left Dakar 24/10 for Diego Suarez and Saigon. Speed last reported voyage 6 to 7 knots. (C.in C. S.A. to N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2001N/10).

COMMANDANT DELUGE.

Sloop minesweeper, escorting French ships P.L.M.12 and BOURGES, passing Gibraltar West to East 1300. (S.O.I.Gib., 1643/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations against Vichy French.

Recognition Signals.

I.C.S. 1129A/1. Do not consider British recognition signals should be issued Free French aircraft for the present. (C.in C. S.A. to Admty, 1919N/10).

North Atlantic.

Operation White.

Admty. 1114/6 and F.O.C.N.A. 1200/9. NEWCASTLE not yet sailed due to enemy minelaying activity. (D.O.D.(F) 1235/10 to F.O.C.N.A. and F.O. Force H).

ARGUS DESPATCH.

WISHART and WRESTLER to R/V. (F.O.C.N.A. 1144A/10 to RENOWN, ARGUS and DESPATCH.

MACHADO.

Consul-General Lisbon's 2032/9 re boarding of fishing steamer MACHADO by Submarine of unknown nationality. Submarine was UTMOST. (F.O.C.N.A. 0758/10 to Admiralty)

RENOWN.

My 1043/9. After leaving convoy p.m/10 return to Gibraltar endeavour arrive p.m./12. If possible 2 Destroyers will be sent to meet you daylight/12. Pass through 037° 00'N., 014° 00W, 035° 30'N 010° 00'W., 035° 00'N, 007° 00W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1142/10 to RENOWN).

FOXHOUND.

Provided 8th D.F. continues to be based at Gibraltar suggest FOXHOUND should join 8th D.F. which will consist entirely of F. class. (F.O.C.N.A. 1202/10 to Admiralty).

Force H. Aircraft Attack.

No aircraft lost in Force H. No casualties or damage. Two enemy shadowers certain, one bomber probable. Further report later. (F.O. Force H, 1639/10 to Admiralty). (See also 1920/10

Italian Submarine, prisoners.

Your 1612/31/10 and my 1220/10/11 Italian prisoners on board are Lt. Birindelli and 2nd class diver Pagannini of midget Submarine. Latter interrogated and has produced most information. Lt. Accardi 1st Lt. of LAFOLE, 8 members of crew of LAFOLE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1642/10 to Admiralty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Contd.)

Submarine Patrol.

My 1120/9. No Submarine is available for this duty before 21/11 by date Force H will have returned to Gibraltar. Intend to establish Submarine patrol to eastward of Gibraltar after departure of Force H. on 14/11. (F.O.C.N.A. 1810/10 to Admiralty).

Force H. Aircraft attack.

Observers in Fulmars were in unique position to observe results of A.A. fire on bombers during attacks on 9/11. They report except for stray shots A.A. bursts from Force H. formed level carpet 2 to 3 thousand feet below bombers who were at 14 thousand feet. This error in low judgment identical for both attacking and retiring run. Weather normal. Conditions very good. Plot prediction good. Firing ships ARK ROYAL, BARHAM, BERWICK, GLASGOW, SHEFFIELD. This suggests that fuze and not height finder may be at fault. (S.O. Force H. 1920/10 to Admiralty).

Spanish Interception.

Madrid 1835/9. Re Spanish S.S.DOMINE stopped by British Trawler. Admiralty has no information about this interception on 7/11. (D.E.W.D. 1837/10).

Italian Submarines Tangier.

My telegram No. 0705 8/11. Colonel Yuste states:- (a) Damage to submarines A and B had now been finally assessed and official statements would reach Madrid at noon/11 by air. (b) Colonel Yuste would neither give me details regarding damage done nor an estimate of time required to repair - those were questions for Ministry of Marine at Madrid. (C) He declared that in their present condition neither submarine was in a fit state to navigate on the surface. (D) It would be possible to repair damage in Tangier and Italians wish to obtain services of an Italian diver for this purposes. (E) Colonel Yuste had made Chief of Spanish Forces in Tangier responsible for proper observance of International Law and Submarines would be blocked by ships on all sides. He himself would see every possible precaution against escape had been taken (this does not fit in with his previous statement that they could not safely navigate). (Consul General, Tangier. 0300/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

To be sailed to cover convoys S.L.54 slow and Fast to latitude of Madeira, then to proceed Gibraltar. F.O.C.N.A. to report when A/S escort will be available. (V.C.N.S. to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A. 1144/10).

Cancel my 2125/5. ROYAL SOVEREIGN will now proceed to Gibraltar. (D.O.D.(F) to C.in C. S.A. 1155/10).

Orders to ROYAL SOVEREIGN. (C.in C. S.A. 1243N/10) 1243N passed to ESPERANCE BAY for information. (C.in C. S.A.1740/10).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN left 1430/10. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1501Z/10).

HEIMEN.
THURSO BANK.

Overdue shipping. My 0945/9. HEIMEN arrived Durban.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1035B/10). My 0945/9. THURSO BANK arrived Capetown.
(S.O.I. Capetown 1715/10).

Mediterranean.

Toranto Reconnaissance.

Morning reconnaissance. In harbour 5 battleships, 6 cruisers, large number of destroyers. (V.A. Malta, 1051/10). Aircraft reports 4 merchant vessels 38.14 N 17.40E, course 360° at 1104 B (V.A. Malta, 1055/10).

ILLUSTRIOUS. Aircraft Operation.

Re possibility of dawn attack by A/C's from ILLUSTRIOUS on Italian at Toranto. (C.N.S. 0041/10 to C.in C. Med.)
Reply: Fully considered and hope to carry it out on night of 11-12/11. Anchorage, however, heavily protected by balloons ashore and on lighters and also by nets. Complete success must therefore not be expected. (C.in C. Med. 1103/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

Suez Canal Raid.

Enemy plane raiding canal area 10/11. (?9/11). 2021 to 2205, making prolonged reconnaissance of canal without interference between kilometre 12 and Deversoir, dropped 10 bombs near latter place. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area, 1142/10).

Alexandria, Raids.

Air raid 1930 to 2000. One machine 4 bombs; 2030 to 2100, four machines 18 bombs. No damage, no casualties. (R.A., Alexandria, 1155/10).
Air Raid 2000 to 2030, bombs believed jettisoned for seaward. 2220 to 2240, 2 bombs, one Egyption and 50 sheep killed, one woman injured. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 0840/11).

Convoy Movements, ILLUSTRIOUS, BARHAM.

My 1357/4. Convoy movements to date carried out according to plan. ILLUSTRIOUS fighters shot down 2 Cants and 2 S.79's during outward passage. No Bombing. BARHAM and cruisers joined at 1015/10, now entering Malta. (C.in C. Med. 1215/10). See also 2317/10.

Greek Situation.

My 1623/9. Military situation seems to be taking an unexpected and quite hopeful turn. If you decide to bombard, following targets suggested by Greeks. No indication of any minelaying near Corfu. (N.A.Athens 1301/10, to C.in C. Med).

Attack on Valona 7/11.

My A.886, 9/11. Further details attacks by 6 Wellingtons 70 Squadron on Valona 7/11. One ship in harbour hit, another bomb falling very close. 2 Wellingtons shot down by fighters on standing patrol and 2 others severely damaged. One Breda 65 shot down confirmed and second unconfirmed. Wellingtons attacked formation of 3 Cant 506's 5 miles off Coast from Valona on return journey, possibly damaging one. On both outward and return journeys our aircraft fired on by Greek ground batteries Corinth and ships in Patras. Four Wellingtons reached their base safely.
(H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. A.888, 1334/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

Air Report; Alexandria Raid.	1 Sunderland 230 Squadron searched for submarine in 31.57N., 27.57E, negative result. Night 9-10/11. 1936, enemy aircraft dropped 9 bombs on Matruh no damage. 1930 hours, enemy aircraft dropped bombs on Lake Mariut and near Ikingi Mariut in Alexandria area, no damage or casualties yet reported. 2046, 1 enemy aircraft dropped 8 H.E. and some incendiary bombs between aerodrome and railway at Helmar near Cairo. Slight R.A.F. damage no casualties. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. A.888 1332/10).
Air Reconnaissance.	Air reconnaissance today. E.I.A. Nil (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1649/10).
Malta Reinforcement.	C.in C. Med's 1215/10. Only air raid at Malta, reconnaissance by fighters, one of which dived and machine-gunned Hal Far, slightly damaging one Swordfish. Army reinforcement landed without incident. GLASGOW and BERWICK with Army detachments fallen in and band playing gave excellent fillip to local morale. All Med. Fleet Ships, including reinforcements, cleared Grand Harbour by 2020. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 2317/10).
TERROR VENDETTA.	Sailed for Suda Bay 1400, expects to arrive 1600/13. (N.O.I.C. Malta. 2317/10).
HERO. HEREWARD.	Remaining at Malta for quick refit. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 2317/10).
RAMILLIES.	Convoy escorted by RAMILLIES and destroyers left Malta p.m./10 for Alexandria. (D.O.R. 11/11).
Middle East Reinforcements.	Re publicity. (C.in C. M.E. to W.O. 0036/10).
TRITON. REGENT. OTUS.	Movements of. (Capt: S.1. 1733/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.).

Submarine Attacks on Destroyers.

Reply to TRITON 1801/7 re circumstances in which submarines may attack a destroyer or T.B. (Capt: S.1 1131/10).

East Indies.

Massawa Bombing.

1155/9. 3 Blenheims 14 Squadron attacked main quays and destroyer base Massawa from 4000 feet, bombs hitting 1 small and 1 large warehouse on quay. Considerable damage believed inflicted. All aircraft returned safely. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1333/10 to Air Ministry).

Reports of Suspicious vessels, possible raider.

Following reports of (?) suspicious vessels have been received 10/11 (a) at 1341Z Norwegian ship OLE JACOBS in position 006° 29' North 090° 16' East. Ship said she was shelled. Message then cancelled. Not considered cancellation was genuine (b) At 1430Z an incompletely received message read by Aden W/T which gave no information except QQ QQ (c) At 1500Z British ship BRITISH DUCHESS in position 010° 50' South 044° 19'East. Report was cancelled at 1508Z. Cancellation considered genuine. (C.in C. East Indies. 1644Z/10 to East Indies Squadron.

CAPETOWN
CANBERRA
WESTRALIA
DURBAN
CRICKET.

My 1644/10 para.(a) (1). Dispositions ordered. (C.in C. East Indies, 1836Z/10 to East Indies Squadron)
My 1836/10. Patrols and movements of CANBERRA, WESTRALIA, CAPETOWN and DURBAN. (C.in C. East Indies, 2016Z/10 to Force V).

KANDAHAR,
CHAKDINA,
PROTECTOR.
(Storm).

KANDAHAR reported cyclonic storm at about 1200Z/9/11. CHAKDINA with BHIMA in two and PROTECTOR in company reported her position at 1620Z/9/11, but has not been in W/T touch since 2022Z/9/11. SHROPSHIRE sent to search for. (C.in C. East Indies, 1838Z/10 tc Admiralty). My 1838/10. SHROPSHIRE heard CHAKDINA at 1800Z/10, W/T communication not established. A D/F bearing was obtained. (C.in C. E.I. 2044Z/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Contd.)

Operation "Rope".

My 1834/6. DORSETSHIRE to bombard an enemy position on passage from Aden to Durban. Operation will be called "Rope". (C.in C. E.I., to S.N.O. Red Sea. 1916Z/10). See Operations Col.

Pearl River Traffic.

Reuter from Canton reports opening Pearl River and resumption of traffic Hong Kong and Macao. Early confirmation and details required. (Capt: O.S. Singapore to S.O.I. Hong Kong 0248Z/10).

America and West Indies.

REVENGE.

Leaving Liverpool 14/11, for Halifax. (D.O.D.(H) 2126/10).

Enemy M.V's request for DESPATCH DUNEDIN.

Report indicates possibility enemy merchant vessels in Mexican Gulf ports may attempt to sail. DIOMEDE and VAN KINSBERGEN fully occupied at eastern end of Caribean Sea. Latter is due for refit when CARADOC's turbine defects completed. Would appreciate return of DESPATCH and DUNEDIN as soon as situation at Rome permits. If only one could be spared, would prefer DESPATCH. (C.in C. A. W.I. to Admty. 1122/10).

Australia.

Convoy U.S.8.

My 0629/5 New Zealand Government considered accommodation in BATORY unsuitable for 187, which were intended and have reduced the number of sailings in BATORY by 499. New Zealand wish number for U.S.8 to be increased from 5246 to 5745. (A.C.N.B. 0415Z/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

ORINOCO. My 1010/6. Reliably reported now expected to leave Tampico at any moment (N.A.Washington, 1302/10).

MENES. At Trieste, being fumigated before receiving crew on 12/11. (D.S.432).

ANTARKTIS. At Vigo, received 2 10 ton lorry loads of provisions on 9/11. (D.S.432).

BREMEN) Had both left Bremeshaven on 3/11,
EUROPA.) one being sighted at Brunsbuttel on 4/11. (B.1) (D.S.432).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

KILISSI. See Home Commands, Policy.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

MOST SECRET.

10.11.40.
Sunday.

WAR DIARY.

Submarines Reported. Tangier.	U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.
	2 Italian submarines (damaged). See North Atlantic.
0905.	Submarine reported in 55.44 N., 10.00 W. at 0905. (C.in C. W.A. 1251/10). (Aldergrove to aircraft duty 1545/10).
1100.	Italian submarine reported damaged in 49.50 N., 11.13 W. at 1100/10. JACKAL, JAGUAR and JUPITER to leave vicinity of Eddystone at dark today to attack U/Boat at dawn tomorrow. (C.in C. W.A. 1330/10 1405/10) (V.A.S. 1249/10, 1544/10) Your 1330 Capt: D.5 in JACKAL sailed. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1630/10). My 1330. position of U/Boat was between 49° and 50°N and between 11° and 13°W., at 1100/10. One section of Blenheims will escort you 11/11 from 0900 being in position 48° 45'N 09° 30' W. at that time. Call sign, SHEPHERD. JACKAL (S.O. Destroyers) R/T call sign BITEM. (C.in C. W.A. 1744/10 to D.5.)
1110.	55° N., 15° W., position indefinite. (D.5.432).
Estimated U/B Dispositions. Italian.	1 may be in area 49 to 50° N 11 to 13° W, proceeding to Bordeaux slowly and may be damaged. 1 may still be in Azores area. 1 may have been off Cape Roca, Portugal, on 5/11.
German.	1 possibly in area 49 to 50°N., 10 to 12°W, proceeding to Lorient. 3 possibly N of 55° N and W of 15° W of which 1 is in area 58° to 60° N and W of 20°W., another may be in area 55° to 57° N., 17° to 21° W., the third in about 55° N., 15° W. 1 more is probably N of 55° N and E of 15° W., whereabouts unknown. (D.D.I.C. 1246/10).

(48)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

REPULSE and BONAVENTURE arrived at Scapa this morning. BONAVENTURE left again at 2305 for further search of the position of attack of Convoy H.X. 84.

The oiler ERODONA of Convoy H.X. 84 informed BONAVENTURE on 1700/7 that she saw JERVIS BAY sunk by the raider on 5/11.

British Air Activity

Bomber Command

3 Blenheims today attacked docks at Lorient where two factories at the west end of the wet dock were hit.

A large fire was started at the oil refinery at Bremen last night.

Channel ports and docks in Holland were attacked last night. A Direct hit is believed to have been made on a merchant vessel at Le Havre but otherwise no special results are reported.

Two Hampdens bombed Danzig.

Coastal Command

3 Beauforts dropped heavy calibre bombs on the submarine base at Lorient this morning Hits are estimated on workshops and on the dry dock.

One Blenheim dropped bombs on Cherbourg at 0005.

Special patrols in connection with the search for the ADMIRAL SCHEER were flown today.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

Attack on F.N.32 and F.S.32 by Italian Aircraft

Convoys F.N. 32 and F.S. 32 were attacked apparently by a formation of Italian bombers escorted by about 40 Italian fighters whilst the two convoys were passing one another in the Thames Estuary shortly after noon and (F.S. 32) again about 1½ hours later.

Three ships were damaged, SS ILSE (2844 tons) SS CORSEA (2764 tons) (anchored at Southend) SS COLONEL CROMPTON (1495 tons) (towed to Southend) SS CORDUFF had an U.X.B. on board. (anchored at the Nore)

Air Ministry report 13 enemy aircraft were destroyed by fighters, plus 6 damaged. LONDONDERRY claims to have shot down one plane, tug ST. MELLONS claims to have destroyed one aircraft by a direct hit with 12 pdr. and to have diabled a second which was finished off by fighters. Admiralty communique states that VIVIEN shot down one and severely damaged a second.

Shortly after the attack VEGA was mined (see mining)

Convoy E.N. 23 Attacked
SS TREBARTHA Sunk
SS CREEMUIR Sunk
SS HARLAW Damaged

Convoy E.N. 23 was attacked by enemy aircraft off Montrose early today and again S.E. of Aberdeen late this afternoon. In the second attack SS CREEMUIR (3997 tons) was torpedoed and sunk and SS HARLAW damaged by bombs and entered Aberdeen., SS TREBARTHA (4597 tons) was holed and set on fire and sank later in Cove Bay; it is reported that the crew were machine-gunned whilst abandoning the ship.

SARPEDON

H.M.Tarwler SARPEDON was machine-gunned off Ramsgate this afternoon and had 6 casualties. Her 12 pdr. gun was damaged.

SS BALMORE

SS BALMORE (1925 tons) was bombed about 230 miles west of Dingle Bay this morning ROCHESTER was detached from the escort of Convoy O.B. 240 to try to locate her, but was unsuccessful and abandoned the search after 5 hours. 17 men remain on board BALMORE which is sinking and has no boats left.

/SS PITWINES...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity- Contd.

SS PITWINES (932 tons) was bombed this morning off Yarmouth and was undamaged, but had two casualties caused by an accident whilst engaging the enemy.

SS BARON MINTO — SS BARON MINTO ashore at Rattray Head was bombed this afternoon.

SS RAVNANGER — SS RAVNANGER (Norwegian 3371) was sunk by enemy air attack off the Tees today.

Damage was caused in an attack on St. Merryn this afternoon.

Several south east coast town were bombed today.

Mining

Minelaying last night by enemy aircraft was indicated in the Thames Estuary and between the Wash and Usworth and probably in the Bristol Channel and off the Cornish coast.

Mines were found in the Thames Estuary, off Humber, South Foreland, Margate (where M.V. GRIT had her electric steering gear put out of action by near explosion but suffered no structural damage) off Milford Haven (where 5 ground mines were self detonated)

Humber was opened at 1045, Milford Haven at 1144, Blyth was closed at 1849.

VEGA Damaged — VEGA escorting Convoy F.S. 32 was damaged by mine in the Thames Estuary this morning and was towed to Harwich.

STELLA ORION Sunk — M/S Trawler STELLAORION was damaged by a mine in the Thames Estuary this morning and foundered after being taken in tow. (D.O.R.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Operations Against Vichy French

It is reported that RICHELIEU was to leave Makar 9/11 for Algiers.

No submarine will be available for Straits patrol until 12/11, by which date Force H will have returned to Gibraltar. F.O.C.N.A. intends to establish a submarine patrol a.m./14 to intercept JEAN BART and RICHELIEU, should they attempt to pass through the Straits.

North Atlantic

S.O. Force H in ARK ROYAL, with SHEFFIELD and 5 destroyers returned to Gibraltar this morning.

Operation "White"

Two destroyers left Gibraltar this morning to R.V. with ARGUS and DESPATCH (due Gibraltar 13/11)

South Atlantic

An enemy unit was located by D/F today in mid Atlantic, about the latitude of Freetown.

BULOLO and BRIDGEWATER are patrolling south of Freetown and DRAGON further S.E. of Cape Palmas to prevent French warships going to west African ports, intercept French merchant ships, and control neutral traffic to French West African ports.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Air Attacks on Egypt

There were two air raids on Alexandria last night. In the First, it is believed bombs were jettisoned far to seaward. No naval or military damage was caused in the second raid.

Between 2040 and 2100 today bombs were dropped along the coast S.E. of Aboulir, at Helwan, Suez and 8 miles S.E. of Kabrit. At Suez, the lighthouse and Govt. buildings were set on fire. No other damage is reported.

East Indies

At 0207Z today Matara intercepted from SS AUTOMEDON an incomplete raider report which was purposely jammed; the figures 418 North were read. SS AUTOMEDON left Durban 29/10 for Penang when she was due 13/11.

SHROPSHIRE made contact with CHAKDINA and ~~DIRAH~~ BHIMA in tow this morning (local time) All was well. ~~CHAKDINA~~ PROTECTOR was last seen about 0700/9; SHROPSHIRE and oiler SLAVOL are searching.

3 Blenheims today attacked the main quays and destroyer base at Massawa, but the bombs fell in the town.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy.

Thames Estuary

In view of present situation in the Thames Estuary, the need for a rescue tug at Sheerness has become most urgent. Request that tug ST MELLONS may be sent for this purpose and that a relief may be sent as soonas possible for MURIA at Harwich. (C. in C., Nore, 1251/11 to Adty)

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE

At 1130/11. (D.C. 1133/11) At 2330/11. (D.C. 2346/11)

Plymouth A/A Defences

Your 0056/8 dealing with minelaying at Plymouth. Question of night fighting aircraft is being considered by Air Ministry.
2. Re para 2. Request in conjuction with A.A.Defence Commander all available evidence including R.D.F. Plots may be examined to confirm circumstances of attack particularly height, and that it may be confirmed that mine and not bomb was dropped.
3. If height is confirmed heavy A.A. or 3" Case I will be better defence than close range A.A.
4. No heavy or light A.A. are at present available from production or other sources. A.A. Command are instructing local Commander to examine any re-deployment of existing 3.7 and 3" Case I, Bofors and 2-pounders considered to be desirable to combat enemy's present tactics. Improvement of night firing arrangements are also being examinied. (A.C.N.S. H. 1314/11 to C. in C., W.A.)

My 0056/8 and 2254/10. To assist in dealing with this serious situation I have given instructions for six single barrelled pompoms now in dockyard to be mounted temporarily on baulk mountings or on lorries and sited at Penlee Point to cover the Approaches to the port. Crews will be provided from depot and local resources. (C. in C., W.A. 1316/11 to Adty.)

/Following.....

MOST SECRET

11.11.1940
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Defence of U.K. Contd.

Following information is required by 1800 Tuesday:-
(1) The Strength and type of military guard at present provided.
(2) Rank of Local Defence Commander appointed.
(3) Whether accommodation is available for a defence company of five officers and two hundred men but not additional to any Army ratings at present lent for defence of Naval Air Stations.
(4) A list of all guns used in active defence. (D.N.A.D. 1725/11 to R.N.A.S. Stations)

Movements

LINCOLN, LUDLOW, LEWES — Your 1040/10. Owing to minelaying at Plymouth sailing is to be deferred pending further instructions (C. in C., W.A. 0043/11 to (F.O.I.C. Belfast)

D.3. — Intend to sail for Sheerness at 1800/11 (Capt. (D) 3, 0919/11 to C. in C., W.A.)

CILICIA — Request you will sail CILICIA for area C2 as soon as can be arranged (F.O.C.N.P. 0950/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CAVINA — Sailed for Clyde E.T.A. 1700/12 (N.O.I.C. Avonmouth, 1200/11 to Admty.)

HEATHER — Intend sailing to arrive Greenock 0800/13 for D.G. ranging and compass adjustment. On completion F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to route and sail HEATHER for Tobermory (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1200/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

Patrol 0 — Cancel tonight Monday. AURORA may revert to 4 hours notice until 0800/12 and give night leave. (C. in C., Nore. 1247/11)

Dover — Patrols for tonight 11/12 (V.A.Dover, 1531/11

/LL Trawlers...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS

Movements-Contd.

LL Trawlers LACENNIA NAB WYKE	My 1741/10. Sailing delayed owing to collision damage (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1658/11)
Orkneys and Shetlands	Positions at 2000/11 (A.C.O.S. 1538/11)
LEOPOLDVILLE HIGHLANDER	Intend sailing LEOPOLDVILLE 1030/12 from Bar Light Vessel. HIGHLANDER will R/V 50° 48' N., 4° 43' W at 1400/11 after A/S exercises. Thence in accordance with C. in C., W.A. 1145/11 (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1540/11nto Admty.)
Orkneys and Shetlands	Trawlers line occupied 11/11 (A.C.O.S. 1643/11)
Nore and Harwich	Movements summary (N.O.I.C. Harwich 1715/11 to SHEARWATER)
SHEARWATER	My position, course and speed 052° 11' N., 0001° 55' E., 020° 15 knots. (SHEARWATER 1800/11 to LONDONDERRY)
SOMALI	My 1702/11 add SOMALI sails Scapa midnight for Rosyth (C. in C., Rosyth 2026/11)
DOUGLAS	When detached later to-day proceed Faroes to complete with fuel. Then escort transport ADDA to Liverpool as ordered by N.O. i/c Faeroes. (C. in C., H.F. 1209/11)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

ADMIRAL SCHEER

Your 2218/10. BONAVENTURE Spoke Oiler ERODONA at 1700/7 onn056° 01' N., 025° 45' W., who answered following question. "Have you any news. Reply. Scattering Tuesday night hoping to rejoin convoy tomorrow. Saw one vessel of German Armoured ship ADMIRAL GRAF SPEE class sink JERVIS BAY and probably six other ships last seen course South position 052° 35'N 032° 13' W.,
After being detached at 0400/8 BONAVENTURE and MASHONA searched area to leeward of sinkings through positions 053° 13' N., 031° 45' W., 052° 52' N., 031° 43' W., 052° 48' N., 031° 16' W., thence at 1800 set course rendezvous with REPULSE. Spoke RANDA DEMETRIOS INGLESSIS nad ELIZABETH MASSEY on November 8th but all were Westbound and gave no information. No trace of wreckage or boats were sighted. BONAVENTURE 0115/11 to Adty.)

C. in C., H.F's 1246/9 and your 1930/10. Sail LETITIA to R/V with REPULSE at 1200/13 in 62° 30' N., 12° W. (F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 0231/11 to F.O.C.N.P.)

Admiralty 2247/10. Following were received:
A. Reports of attacks on RANGITIKI, CORNISH CITY, and BEAVERFORD from Whitehall W/T.
B. An enemy report from JERVIS BAY.
C. Admty. message 2019to FOLKESTONE
2. These placed the enemy about 150 miles to southward.
3. On receipt of Admty. 2225/5 course was steered for scene of action which was reached at dawn 6th November. It was then blowing a gale from E.S.E. and visibility was less than two miles.
4. Owing to weather and fuel situation and to defects in LUDLOW and LEWES search was abandoned at 0900/6 without anything having been sighted.
(LINCOLN 0730/11 to Admty.)

My 0045/10, para 4. For H.G. 5 read H.G. 7. Add convoys increased speed to 7 knots at 1000/10 (RENOWN 0843/10 to Adty.)

WORCESTER patrolling on T.R. 36 (C. in C., H.F. 0933/10 to F.O.C.N.P)

/Expect.....

HOME COMMANDS

Operations-Contd.

Expect to arrive Scapa in NELSON with 4 destroyers p.m./13 passing through position 60° 35' N., 11° 20' W and south of North Rona. F.O.C.N.P. is to withdraw WORCESTERSHIRE from patrol on T.R. 36 after 1800/12. (C. in C., H.F. 1219/11)

Admiralty 2247/10. At 1834Z + 3/5 in 051° 05' N., 045° 02' W., course and speed 055° 14.5 in company MONTGOMERY, CHURCHILL, LEEDS, received Admty. 2028/5. At 2056 spread ships to 3 miles and altered course to 082° for Tory Island speed 14.5 knots. At daylight 0600Z + 3/6 spread ships to 16 miles on line of bearing 000° 180° in order CHURCHILL, MONTGOMERY, LEAMINGTON, LEEDS the latter being southern ship. Course and speed 082° 14½5 knots. At 1400 when in position 051° 58' N., 037° 43' W sighted steamship SOVAK who reported she was dispersed from Convoy H.X. 84 which had been attacked by an enemy warship and was returning to Halifax. SOVAK requested instructions and was routed as follows: through position 054° N., 025° W., and 054° 40' N., 016° 40' W., then if escort not met to proceed by guard route to Liverpool The sight of SOVAK at her position, course and speed was reported to Admiralty in LEAMINGTON'S 0622/9 transmitted at 1215/9. At ? 0656/7 LEAMINGTON passed through position where convoy H.X. 84 was attacked but nothing was seen. At 0830 Z + zone sighted French merchant vessels SAN FRANCISCO and WINNIPEG. Position, course and speed of these ships was approximately 053° 29' N., 022° 36' W., 075° 13 knots. (LEAMINGTON 1330/11 to (?) N.S.H.Q., Ottawa

Following is a summary of a report by Rear Admiral Maltby, Commodore of Convoy H.X. 84:-
At 1500/5 Convoy consisted of 37 ships The MORSKAWALA having dropped out on 2/11 and had not rejoined. Convoy was in 9 columns with Commodore in CORNISH CITY leading the 5th column. Escort JERVIS BAY was in centre of convoy between 4th and 5th columns. Convoy was steering 067° at 9 knots. Sea smooth, visibility good. At 1540 RANGITIKI leading the 6th column called attention to the bearing 020°.

/Nothing.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations- Contd.

Nothing seen except a very little smoke. At 1700 EMPIRE PENGUIN leading the 4th column called attention to bearing 351° when ship was seen approaching convoy. At 1706 JERVIS BAY reports unknown warship approaching convoy "prepare to scatter" At 1707 JERVIS BAY asked for convoy to be turned to starboard which was immediately done by emergency procedure. At 1709 JERVIS BAY cancelled this signal which had already been complied with. At 1710 unknown warship opened fire on convoy and on JERVIS BAY who had drawn ahead of convoy and was steering for raider. Commodore at once made signal to convoy to scatter which was carried out effectively Ships dropping smoke floats which appeared to put up a very effective screen. Raider on opening fire was about 8-10 miles distant and appeared to be the GRAF SPEE Class. It was subsequently estimated by height of splashes and measurements of shell fragments that shells were 11". Raider fired 3 gun salvoes throughout. For the first 15 minutes the raider appeared to concentrate on the JERVIS BAY who put up a very gallant fight and continued firing when she was burning furiously. She was last seen at 1900 still burning when an explosion occurred on board. After shelling the JERVIS BAY raider was seen to attack RANGITIKI. In the meantime the convoy was scattering, most of the ships being pursued to the southward by the raider while some others, including the Commodore's ship, escaped to the westward and northward. Firing was observed to the southward from the Commodore's ship up till about 2230 and during this time about 7 heavy explosions were observed, thought to be tankers. Nothing further was seen and there were no ships in sight of Commodore at daylight. Commodore then made for the Clyde picking up the following ships en route:-
ERODONA, DANAE II, OIL RELIANCE, ATHEL TEMPLAR, DAN-Y-BRYN, EMPIRE PENGUIN, CASTILLIAN, ANDALUSIAN, BRIARWOOD, CORNISH CITY. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1400/11 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations-Contd.

My 1240/11. Amend as follows. (C. in C.,W.A. 1710/11 to DERBYSHIRE, LETITIA)

MATEBELE, MASHONA, SIKH, PUNJABI are detailed to proceed with REPULSE in accordance with F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 1116/11 (R.A.D. H.F. 1743/11 to MATEBELE)

My 1145/11. Amend R/V to 55° 39' N., 7°W at o830/13. (C. in C., W.A. 1917/11 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

Report any further details you can add to your 0730/11. For example, were ships spread and if so how far apart. (V.C.N.S. 2015/11 to LINCOLN)

Have you any further details to add to your 0115/11. For example, what front was covered in your sweep. (V.C.N.S. 2016/11 to BONAVENTURE)

As search carried out by BONAVENTURE appears to have been quite inadequate she is to proceed immediately to position of sinking and carry out search for survivors and wreckage to the limit of her endurance. Information re weather since date of sinking follows. (1st S.L. 2055/11 to C. in C., H.F.)

Proceed at your best possible speed to 52° 40' N., 32° 30' W., Further orders follow. (D.C. 2116/11 to CHITRAL)

Operations PU 1 and PU 2

Three 70 foot M.T.B's to destroy alleged Rescue craft and/or Light Forces maintaining the Swept Channel between 53° 23' N 4° 48' E., and 53° 8' N., 4° 36' E., attacking without challenge any vessel met East of 2° 30' E. Details. (C. in C., Nore 1 50/11 to BEEHIVE)

FURIOUS
DIDO

Comply with Admty. 1350/9 and F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 0855/11. (A.C.O.S. 1042/11 to DIDO)

/My 1217/10....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

FURIOUS, DIDO-Contd.

My 1217/10. Sail CAIRO with SOUTHAMPTON to R/V with convoy as A/A Escort (C. in C., W.A. 1325/11 to F.O.I.C. Belfast)

My 1217/10. Destroyer escort. HAVELOCK, HESPERUS, HURRICANE from Liverpool, VESPER, VENOMOUS from Clyde, VELOX from Londonderry. (C. in C., W.A. 1643/11 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

DIDO's 0950/9 and 2015/10. Have inspected DIDO's shell stowage. Particulars. Some reduction in rate of fire over long period must be accepted, but consider ship fit for service contemplated. (C.S. 15 1737/11 to Admty.)

DIDO left Scapa 1930 for Clyde. (A.C.O.S. 2047/11)

Iceland

Intend sailing LL Trawlers LACENNIA and NAB WYKE for Reykjavik 1000/12. Speed 9 knots. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1741/10 to Admty)

Submarines

SEAWOLF

Intend to sail SEAWOLF escorted by TROUBADOUR when ready from Campbelltown to position 180 Lizard Head 7 miles. Details. (S.2, 0854/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

Time your arrival at position W, 180 and 2 between 0830 and 1500. E.T.A. at this pdnt is to be reported 24 hours in advance. (Capt. (S) 5., 1602/11 to SEAWOLF)

TRIDENT

Intend to direct TRIDENT to proceed from S. of Belle Ile to carry out anti U-Boat patrol off Lorient. (V.A.S. 1633/11 to Admty.)

Amended by (V.A.S. No T.O.O. to Admty.)

After dark 11/12 TRIDENT is to proceed to carry out anti U-Boat patrol to south westward of Ile de Groin. (V.A.S. 1634/11 to S/M's on patrol, Area B. Negative S/M's on patrol Portsmouth Command)

/Positions.....

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HOME COMMANDS

Submarines-Contd.

Positions and Movements — For following 24 hours at 0800/12. (V.A.S. 1651/11)

TUNA — V.A.S. 1634/11. TUNA may be on the line 046° 56' N., 003° 55' W., 048° 00' N., 005° 20' W., tonight 11/12 (Capt (S) 2, 2252/11 to TRIDENT)

British Air Activity

Rosyth Air Searches — My 2042/10. Add following one circuit of Cross-over Patrol. (C. in C., Rosyth 0058/11)

R/C of Norwegian Coast — 3 Beauforts leave Wick about 1300 for offensive R/C between Sogne Fiord and Stadlandet. (C. in C., Rosyth 1124/11 to Adty.)

A/C Torpedo Training in Firth of Forth — Has begun between May Island and Inchkeith. Request all ships be informed. (C. in C., Rosyth 1509/11 to Admty.)

Bombing of Coastal Batteries — C. in C., Nore's 1026/10. Request may be undertaken by Coastal Commands, who should also undertake future similar requirements in co-ordination with Bomber Command. (Air Ministry 1800/11 to H.Q.C.C.)

S/M Bombing Restrictions — Institute in Holyhead Sactuary daily from 0730 to 1600 from 12 to 15 November inclusive and in Tay Sanctuary 0800 to 1800 daily from 12 to 14 November. (H.Q.C.C 1800/11)

Attack on Lorient — 11/11 Two factories at west end of wet dock hit. 3 Blenheims attacked 2 small ships in 48° 45' N., 4° 0' E., results not observed. (H.Q.B.C. 0247/12)

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HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

BALMORE

(British 1925 tons) Bombed and sinking in 52° N., 17° W., (BALMORE 1036/11) Want help immediately (BALMORE 1041/11) Sinking slowly. May last 2 hours. (BALMORE) 1117/11) If in vicinity proceed to assist. (C. in C., W.A. 1217/11 to ROCHESTER) Detach one ship to assist BALMORE. D/F bearing puts her in 53° N., and 15° to 16° W., (C. in C., W.A. 1637/11 to ARROW) Your 1217. Have searched 5 hours without result. In view of your 1637 and weather, am abandoning search and proceeding. Weather report. (ROCHESTER 1704/11 to C. in C., W.A.) Still afloat at 1812 G.M.T. (Port Patrick Radio 1807/11 to Navy Charge, Greenock) Bearing from Port Patrick Radio 254° (Port Patrick 1812/11 to Greenock) Port boat swamped. Help urgently required. (Scapa W./T. 2158/11) One boat away with 10 men. 17 men left in ship. High wind and sea. (BALMORE 2314/11 G.M.T.) Position 52° N 17° W. Ship almost gone. No boats. Do your best (BALMORE 0318/12) (C. in C., W.A. 0445/12 to ARROW, AMAZON. Repts. to ABERDEEN, HEARTSEASE, GERANIUM) Bearing from Lands End 300°, from Malin Head 244° at 0534/12) (Lands End Radio 0535/12) Bearings give position 53° N., 15° W., (C. in C., W.A. 0705/12 to ARROW, AMAZON) My position 55° 13' N., 12° 50' W., Very heavy sea. (AMAZON 0001/12 to CYCLAMEN) MY position 53° 18' N., 14° 55' W., Searched without result since 1400. Spoke ALMEDA STAR inward bound, nothing sighted. Intend returning Clyde forthwith (AMAZON 1900/12 to C. in C., W.A.)

RAVNANGER

(Norwegian, 3371 tons) Reports bombed 1 to 1½ miles N.E. of No 20 Buoy. Submerged, stern floating, dangerous to navigation. 26 men saved in own boat, 1 man lost. (N.O.I.C. Middlesborough 0500/11 to C. in C., Rosyth) A.P. Vessel and Tug both report no trace. Consider no longer dangerous to navigation. Depth of water 20 fathoms. (N.O.I.C. Middlesborough 1030/11 to C. in C., Rosyth)

/Convoy AREANA.....

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Convoy ARE/NA (F.S. 32)

Being shadowed by 1 aircraft in 51° 54' N., 1° 40' E., (VIMIERA 0828/11) 13 aircraft in 51° 43' N., 1° 22' E. (VIMIERA 1027/11) 10 aircraft in 51° 36' N., 1° 11' E., (VIMIERA 1205/11) Aircraft bombing convoy (VIMIERA 1219/11) Am standing by COLONEL CROMPTON on fire. No other casualties. 2 aircraft down. (VIMIERA 1242/11 to C. in C., Nore.) Have left SUN II towing COLONEL CROMPTON who is still on fire. (VIMIERA 1259/11 to C. in C., Nore) Enemy bombing convoy in 51° 31' N., 1° 4' E (VIMIERA 1331/11)

Convoy AGENT (F.N. 32)

Help in 51° 37' N., 1° 13' E., (LONDONDERRY 1211/11) Enemy is dropping bombs. (LONDONDERRY 1213/11) Fighters being sent (C. in C., Nore, 1220/11 to LONDONDERRY) 12 Junkers. 2 Enemy and 2 Hurricanes down. (LONDONDERRY 1220/11 to C. in C., Nore) CORSEA hit. (LONDONDERRY 1230/11) My 1220. 2 Junkers. Reported 6 down by VIVIEN. (LONDONDERRY 1326/11 to C. in C. Nore) 2 M.T.B's leaving Harwich now for A/C rescue work. (C. in C., Nore 1349/11 to LONDONDERRY) VEGA in tow. steering gear out of action. (ST. MELLONS 1356/11 to C. in C., Nore)

My 1220 final analysis. Attack by 12 J.U on head of convoy 32. 3 down by our fighters, one by H.M.S. LONDONDERRY's gunfire, and one Hurricane down. Attack by 10 more on rear of F.N. convoy 32 and head of F.S. convoy 32. 2 J.U. down. COLONEL CROMPTON, ILSE, CORSEA damaged No ship sunk. At 1405 one enemy seaplane brought down by fighters in 051° 40' N., 001° 26' E., (LONDONDERRY 1516/11 to C. in C., Nore)

Salvage Tug ST. MELLONS armed 12 pdr. gun reports during attack on F.N. 32 having obtained direct hit total destruction one Me aircraft also near miss partly disabling a second which was shot down by friendly aircraft. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2220/11 to C. in C., Nore.)

/ F.N. 32 .....

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HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

F.N. 32 damaged in Southen Anchorage. COLONEL CROMPTON main engines and helm out of action. Fire on board under control. Proceeding London a.m. 12 th.
CORSEA near miss, leaking under control Proceeding London a.m. 12th.
F.S. CORDUFF reported unexploded bomb on board anchored at the Nore. (N.C.S.O. Thames 0133/12 to Adty.)

HUGH WALPOLE — (A/S Trawler) Being attacked by A/C in 56° 45' N., 2° 4' W. (HUGH WALPOLE 1350/11) One A/C. Attack unsuccessful (HUGH WALPOLE 1455/11 to C. in C., Rosyth)

BARON MINTO — Coastguard Peterhead reports one Heinkel dropping Bombs on SS BARON MINTO ashore at Rattray Head, at 1345. (C. in C., Rosyth 1422/11 to Adty.)

Ramsgate — Between 1315 and 1320/11 A/C dropped 3 H.E. Bombs on town. Casualties and damage, but no Navel.

SARPEDON (H.M.Trawler) — At 1358 2 A/C machine-gunned SARPEDON causing 6 casualties, one very serious, one serious, and 4 slight. 12 Pdr. gun in SARPEDON damaged. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1740/11 to Adty.)

St. Merryn — At 1633/11 one A/C dropped 3 bombs. Damage to building. No casualties. Raider believed hit. (Naval Air Station, St. Merryn 1746/11 to C. in C., W.A.)

Convoy E.N. 23

TREBARTHA Sunk
CREEMUIR Sunk
HARLAW Damaged

Air Attack on E.N. 23 at 1815/11/11 off Aberdeen resulted in CREEMUIR being torpedoed and sank in three minutes. 13 survivors out of 42 landed from SS OBERON a.m.12/11 at Aberdeen SS TREBARTHA bombed and eventually sank in Cove Bay about midnight. 4 lost includes 3 W/T operators and 1 gunner R.A.F.. Remainder saved.
SS HARLAW bombed and entered Aberdeen midnight for repairs. No casualties, damage not serious. (C. in C., Rosyth 1207/12)

/(British.....

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HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy E.N. 23 TREBARTHA Sunk, Contd.

(British, 4597 tons) Attacked in convoy E.N. 23. Ashore in Cove Bay, 3 miles south of Aberdeen, on fire and holed both sides. About 50 survivors including many casualties returning to Aberdeen in SS OBERON. ABEILLE IV ordered to stand by, unable to approach owing to heavy sea. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2314/11 to C. in C., Rosyth) Attacked by one A/C at 1815/11. Gunner killed. Large fire. Five mains broken. Crew abandoned ship, were machine-gunned while doing so, and were picked up by OBERON. Ship total wreck at Souter Head 2 miles South Girdleness. Crew landed Aberdeen, 3 stretcher cases. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1232/12 to C. in C., Rosyth)

CREEMUIR

(British 3997 tons) OBERON reports seeing CREEMUIR torpedoed, sinking in 3 minutes, and picked up 13 survivors of crew of 42. (N.O.I.C. 1232/12 to C. in C., Rosyth)

HARLAW

Reports one glancing hit by Bomb and 2 near misses. Ship leaking and entered Aberdeen for repairs. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1232/12 to C. in C., Rosyth)

Mining

Sheerness

FIREFLY reports 1 red mine detonated at 2325/10. 305° N.E. Spit Buoy 1½ cables near inside. (Capt M.S. 0916/11 to C. in C., Nore)

Humber

Port is open (F.O.Humber 1045/11 to Admty) LL Trawler detonated following mines at 0300/11, 120° Spurn Point Light House 3.35 miles red inside Far at 1045, 20 yds S.W. magnetic from 1 A Buoy Red under Far this mine exploded fourth time over at 1446, 1 mile west magnetic of Chequer Shoal Buoy red inside Far. At 2120/10 heavy explosion reported in sky ½ mile E. of Bull Fort. Burning fabric seen to drop after explosion A/C was then seen proceeding and was plotted at 4000 ft. Possible mine hit by machine-gun fire. (F.O.Humber, 1901/11 to Admty.)

/Milford Haven.....

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

Milford Haven	Port open subject to local restrictions. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1144/11 to Admty)
VEGA	Send ST MELLONS to assistance of VEGA mined near Sunk Head Buoy (C. in C., Nore, 1209/11 to LONDONDERRY) Harwich 11/11 departure of KENIA to assist VEGA (F.O.I.C. Harich 1257/11 to Admty.) Following from VEGA addressed C. in C., Nore, begins My 1059 near miss by acoustic mine 051° 46' 00" N., 001° 25' 00" E., engines, W/T and D/F completely out of action. Leak under control, am anchored in this position, 1231 ends. Tugs ST. MELLONS and KENIA ordered to tow VEGA to Harwich for examination. (C. in C., Nore, 1431/11 to Admty.) KENIA now assisting (ST. MELLONS, 1436/11 to C. in C., Nore)
Dover	Routine sweeps to noon/11. 2 mines found in QZX 200 (V.A.Dover 1421/11)
Explosions	No 38 Light Vessel reports heavy under-water explosion N.E. 100 yards. Two vessels bearing west course N.E. speed 10 knots, about 150 yards from explosion. GRIT (motor vessel) reports explosion near E. Margate Buoy 1150/11, abreast midships part of ship about 20 feet distant. Electrical steering gear out of action but no structural damage. (F.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1542/11 to Admty.) Analysis of reports from ships on patrol on night 10/11 shows following explosions etc., in Thames Estuary. Details. (S.O.T. L.D.F., 1615/11 to C. in C., Nore.)
Operation B.S. 46	Postponed 24 hours (TEVIOT BANK 1645/11 to Admty.)
Minelaying by Seaplane	1 Seaplane possibly minelaying 2735 (?) course 325° height 8000 ft. (Lochstort 1741/11 to Admty.)

/Milford Haven.....

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HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

Milford Haven — One red mine detonated by single LL 173 °
Great Castle Head low light 9.7 cables.
Five ground mines self detonated as follows:
224° Great Castle Head low light 12.9cables.
162° Great Castle Head low light 8.4 cables.
84° St. Anns Light 13.2 cables.
89° St. Anns Light 6.4 cables.
114° St. Anns Light 5.1 cables.
The last three exploded approximately 200 yards from H.M.S. ROSEMARY within channel swept by LL sweepers today.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1829/11 to Admty)

Blyth — Port closed, suspected A/C minelaying. Expect to open 1300/12. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 1849/11 to Admty.)

Sweep — My 1137/8 re Oropesa sweeps. Search completed 1 mile each side of 56° 36' 00" N. KELLET PANGBOURNE and ROSS sail from Grantham 12/11 to complete operation. (C. in C., Rosyth, 2259/11 to Admty.)

Minefields, QZH 202 and 209 — HAVELOCK reports when passing S of minefield QZH 202 and 209, 4 mines were heard to explode between 1220 and 1330. One was a mile from ship but no wreckage was seen. Explosion appeared dangerous to surface navigation. 1643/10. Ends.
(C. in C., W.A. 2313/11 to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence

Gironde — Report from TUNA suggesting that mines may have been laid inshore. (TITANIA 0101/11 to Admty.)

LUTZOW — My 1541/9. Position on 4/11 (N.A.Stockholm 1117/11 to Admty.

Lorient — 1430. 2 S/M's in harbour (H.Q.B.C. 0247/12)

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CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS

MENDIP — My 1450/9. In tow of CHAMPION leaves 0900 today. Speed about 5 knots. (R.AD H.F. 0803/11 to C. in C., Rosyth)

CAPE ST ANDREW — (British, 5094 tons) Request immediate assistance. Engine broken down, will require tow. Position 55° 35' 15" N., 11° 10' W., (CAPE ST ANDREW Recd. 2350/11) Proceed to assist (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0404/12 to Tug SUPERMAN) CAPE ST ANDREW still urgently requires assistance (CAPE ST ANDREW 0451/12) Sailed SUPERMAN (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0505/12 to C. in C., W.A.) Position at 1659/12 was 55° 28' N., 11° 20' W., HURRICANE standing by (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1805/12) 35 survivors landed. 15 lost. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1117/15 to Admty.)

STELLA ORION — M/S Trawler. Sank about 262° 2 cables from N.W. Shingles Buoy. (C. in C., Nore 0947/12 to Adty.)
Foundering. All hands taken off. (MARETTA 1135/11 to C. in C., Nore)

2 Rafts — A/P Trawler MORAVIA has landed 2 rafts marked Amsterdam picked up 9/11 on H.Q. Patrol. Particulars. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1320/11 to C. in C., Nore, and 0957/12 to Admty.)

EUPHORBIA — (British, 3380 tons) Out of control off St. Ann's Head and drifting rapidly. Can we enter Milford Haven (EUPHORBIA 1336/11) Very urgent. Drifting. (Burnham on Sea Radio 1537/11)

ENGLISH TRADER — (British, 3953 tons) In collision at 1230 in No 3 Dock, Methil with MONAS ISLE, while undocking. Request surveyor be sent by A.S. Rosyth to inspect damage. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1450/11 to Admty.)

LL Trawlers
LACENNIA
NAB WYKE — See Movements.

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HOME COMMANDS

Convoys	Shipping
	Situation at 2000/11. (C. in C., W.A. 1240/11
O.B. 239.	Not met. My p.c. and s. Passed O.B. 241 unescorted at 0800 (position) and W.N. 35 at 0930 (position) (BROKE to C. in C., W.A. 1105/11) Commodore O.B. 239 reports position 308° Tory Island 55 miles at 0930/11. (C. in C., W.A., 1239/11) REVENGE to cover O.B. 239, 240, 241. (C. in C., W.A. 1145/11)
O.B. 241.	Reported in position 55.47 N., 07.21 W., at 0800/11. If not in company report your p.c. and s (C. in C., W.A. to HURRICANE, VERITY etc., 1255/11) Your 1712/11 O.B.O. 241 did not sail. (C. in C., W.A. to VETERAN, 2255/11)
S.C. 10	Amended route to avoid minefield being laid on 12/11. (C. in C., W.A., 1007/11 to WALKER, VANSITTART, FOLESTONE)
O.B. 242	Amended route to avoid minefield being laid on 12/11 (C. in C., W.A. 1233/11 to WANDERER, WILD SWAN, CLARE, GARDENIA, HIBISCUS) Sailed 1115/11 (C. in C., W.A. 1236/11)
O.B. 243	Addition to my 1221/10 (N.C.S.O. Mersey to Admty. and C. in C., W.A. 1530/11) Ships in O.B.M. 243 are to be sailed to Clyde to await convoy (D.T.D. 2105/11)
S.L. 55	MORETON BAY to act as ocean escort. (C. in C., S.A., 1705N/11)
S.C. 11	Route. Escort, ENCHANTRESS to U.K. (D.T.D. 1221/11)
B.H.X. 88	Your 1651/10. To be sailed in accordance my 1654/9. My 1829/4 in cancelled (D.T.D. 1400/11 to C. in C., A.W.I)
H.G. 46 S.L. 53	R.V. altered to minimise risk of air attack. (D.T.D. 1924/11, 1925/11, to WELLINGTON, ARAWA, etc.,)
F.N. 30	Tanker SCOTTISH HEATHER, damage from air attack 9/11. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1529/11)
H.X. 87 H.X. 88 S.C. 12	To be sailed in accordance with my 1654/9 (D.T.D. 1401/1)

/H.X. 86.....

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping

Convoys-Contd.

H.X. 86

Sailing telgram (N.O.I.C. Halifax, 1107/11 to Admty, VOLTAIRE, etc.,)

C.E. and C.W.

C. in C. Portsmouth's 1833/8. There are insufficient colliers available to produce the surplus suggested.
C.E. Convoy should be sailed within three days of the arrival of the C.W. regardless of whether it is up to the number of ships allowed. (D.T.D. 2107/11)

H.X. 84
Attacked by Raider
5/11.

Admty. 2218/10. Information from BONAVENTURE who spoke oiler ERODONA at 1700/7 in 56.01 N., 23.45 W., which vessel saw German armoured ship GRAF SPEE class sink JERVIS BAY and probably 6 other ships, last seen course south, 52.35 N., 32.13 W., BONAVENTURE and MASHONA searched area to leeward of sinkings (positions) No trace of wreckage or boats. (BONAVENTURE, 0115/11)

DUCHESS OF RICHMOND with R.A.F. personnel ex W.S.4.A) reports leaving convoy 0310 G.M.T./5 and at 1900 G.M.T. in 51° 27' 30" N 32° 30' W., steering 260° true, received report raider attacking convoy in position north true distance 70 miles. Flash gunfire continually visibile between 1900 G.M.T. and 2100 G.M.T. (N.C.S.O. Montreal 1140/11)

Report of search by Town Class destroyers (LEAMINGTON, 1330/11 see Operations)

Sighted HJALMAR WESSEL, straggler from H.X. 84, with one other unidentified vessel inward bound in 57° N., 10.45 W., at 1715/10. (B.C.1. to Admty 1455/11) HJALMAR WESSEL arrived Oban 1800/11. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1830/11)

RANGITIKI, too rough to board, has been ordered up harbour (N.C.S.O. Liverpool, 1735/11)

All destroyers at St. Johns to search for wreckage of H.X. 84 (Admty, 2119/11) Your 2119/11. Route given in my 1129/8 allowed for drift to northward and S.O. was instructed to spread ships when passing through area. Master PACIFIC ENTERPRISE in H.X. 84 interviewed today stated S.E. gale occured following day. (F.O. 3 B.S., 2334/11)

/Information...

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HOME COMMANDS

Convoys	Shipping
H.X. 84 Attacked by Raider 5/11-Contd.	Information from SOLFONN, ex H.X. 84. of 36 ships in convoy, 19 have now been accounted for. (D.O.R. 11/11)
	All available Town Class destroyers to search towards 52.40 N., 32.30 W., (D.D.O.D. (H) to R.A. 3., 2119/11)
W.S.4.B.	Date of sailing. Composition. Ocean escort EDINBURGH. Fighter protection code word "Olive". (D.D.O.D. (H) 2121/11) Orders to EDINBURGH. (D.O.D. (H) 2114/11)
C.M. 5.	Arrived (N.C.S.O. Kilindini, 0925/2/11)
LEOPOLDVILLE	REVENGE to escort to Halifax (C. in C., W.A. 1145/11)
WESTERN PRINCE	Route (N.C.S.O. Liverpool to A.C.W.A., 1531/11)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French

CANADA

French hospital ship, ready to sail from Liverpool for Gibraltar 12/11. F.O.I.C. Liverpool to sail her by route in my 1913/28 as soon as safe conduct which has been applied for is received. (D.O.D. (H) 1327/11 to C. in C., W.A. etc.,)

W. African Patrol

BULOLO and BRIDGEWATER patrolling S. of Freetown on line 230° St. Ann's Shoal. DRAGON further to S.E. off Cape Palmas. Object prevention of French Warships going to W. African Port, interception of French Merchant Ships and control of neutral traffic to French W. African Port. (C. in C., S.A. 0951/11 to Admty.)

RICHELIEU

Report from Command Bathurst believed reliable that RICHELIEU would leave 9/11 for Algiers. Not possible to check. (C. in C., S.A. 1403/11 to Admty.)

PONCELET

Your 1852/8. Investigation shows no British A/C or other British forces attacked PONCELET on 4/11 inside or outside territorial waters. On 7/11 she made a torpedo attack on MILFORD at 1423 without warning. Confirmed by PONCELET log. MILFORD sighted submarine for first time at 1547, 15 miles from Cape Lopez, she was subsequently signalled to stop but ignored signals and fire was opened. Submarine dived and re-surfaced, crew fell in on deck and PONCELET scuttled herself. Crew were picked up. For your information PONCELET was bombed by Free French Blenheims at Port Gentil 4/11. (Admty 1653/11 to N.A. Madrid amended 2102/11)

Submarine Patrols

My 1810/10. Patrol will be established E of Gibraltar a.m./14, details. Objects: by day to attack JEAN BART or RICHELIEU without warning. Not to attack French ships coming from Eastwards. By night to attack any darkened ship which attempts to pass straits in either direction accompanied by warning. (F.O.C.N.A. 1704/11 to Admty.)

Your 1704/11. Confirmed that information in para (d) of Admty 0404/3 had been communicated to Vichy Govt. (A.C.N.S. (F) to F.O.C.N.A. 1424/11)

/TEMPETE.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Operations Against Vichy French-Contd.

TEMPETE — Passed Gibraltar 1620/11 from west to east escorting P.L.M. 21. (S.O. (1) Gibraltar 1733/11 to Admty.)

INDOCHINOIS — My 1706/6 (re repatriation of passengers) request information whether arrangements are being made for a ship to call at Freetown to take passengers (C. in C., S.A. 2025/11 to Admty.)

French Ships, Lome — Collector of Customs, Kita, reports 1 French warship and French steamer stated to have arrived Lome 0011. These are probably the Vichy destroyer and merchant ship CARIMARE mentioned in my 1315/7, (C. in C., S.A. 2237/11)

Libreville — At 0515/10 the O.C.Troops Libreville requested end hostilities. Governor Masson believed left Libreville by air for Abidjan. Situation at Port Gentil not yet known. (G.O.C. Accra 2020/11 to War Office)

North Atlantic

ARGUS DESPATCH — ARGUS to adjust speed of advance, if fuelling necessary arrive Gibraltar 2200/3 if fuelling not necessary pass Europa Point at 0900/14, maintaining speed of advance 15 knots. Inform DESPATCH of intended plans. DESPATCH to part company when destroyer escort joins and arrive Gibraltar by about 1200/13. (S.O.Force H., to ARGUS, 1150/11)

Operation "White" — With Force H hampered by ARGUS and Mediterranean Fleet not in Central Mediterranean, warning of move by important Italian units to westward considered important. Request adequate reconnaissances Any bombing of west side of aerodrome possible (date) would assist. (S.O.Force H 1005/11 to V.A.Malta) Amending dates. (S.O.Force H, 1132/12, 1531/12)

/Italian S/M.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic-Contd.

Italian Submarine Prisoners

My 1642/10 para 1 (re interrogation of Italian prisoners from Midget S/M) Second name should read Paccagnini. (F.O.C.N.A. 1046/11 to Admty.)

Enemy Unit

By D/F at 0214/11 an unknown enemy unit transmitted message from within 150 miles of Cape Race. Possibly shore station. (F.O.C.N.A. 1057/11 to S & A.N.A.Station)

My 1057/11. May be a U-Boat. Amend position to within 150 miles 30° N., 20° W., (F.O.C.N.A. 1609/11) (See U-Boat Campaign, S/M's Reported)

AGIA VARVARA (Greek 2433 tons)

Greek Minister reports AGIA VARVARA sailing from Bilbao 13/11 sunset for Lisbon was repeatedly reconnoitred a.m./11 in Port Bilbao by aircraft with German markings. (N.A.Madrid 1800/11 to Admty.)

Exercises, M.T.Ships

Your 1633/8 para H Concur proposals. Instructions for exercises on passage are being signalled direct to F.O.C. 18th C.S. (S.O.Force H., 1944/11 to Admty.) (S.O.Force H 1948/11 to F.O. 18 C.S.)

Operation Coat Completed

Operation Coat carried out by Force H according to plan, 8/11. One shadowing S. 79 shot down 038° 16' N., 003° 05' W., by fighters directed on by R.D.F. plotting. At 1330 ARK ROYAL, SHEFFIELD, GLASGOW, and six destroyers proceeded ahead for attack on Gagliari.
9/11 Striking force of nine Swordfish flew off 0430 all returned by 0805. Five attacked hangers and buildings and obtained several hits causing one big explosion and fires. Remainder attacked seaplane at anchor, A/A ships, batteries and factories near power station, obtained one direct hit on latter. 33% bombs delayed action. At 0745 three Fulmars flew off for Malta. Forces F and B concentrated at 0920. At 1005 shot down one shadowing Cant. 506B 037° 30' N., 006° 48' E. At 1120 four flights each of five S. 79 delivered high level bombing attacks 037° 54' N., 007° 17' E. Of three fighter sections on patrol two able to intercept and engage but unable to break up formation. Fighters handicapped by lack of speed particularly Skuas.

/Some near.....

MOST SECRET

11.11.1940
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Operation Coat Completed-Contd. — Some near misses on ARK ROYAL, BARHAM, DUNCAN. A/A ship burst mainly short. See my 1920/10. No certains, one probable, and others possibly damaged by fighters. No further attacks during day and no indication of further shadowing. Forces F and B parted company at 1915, 037° 55' N., 009° 10' E. (S.O.Force H., 0723/11 to Admty.)

Operations White Collar — Re Admty. 1235/10. NEWCASTLE cannot yet sail. If she does not do so before 1800/12, Operation White is to be carried on without her. NEWCASTLE would then have to join operation Collar unless you can propose any other method of getting her to Malta earlier. If NEWCASTLE sails 12/11 Operation White is to take place 24 hours late. You may prefer to delay arrival of ARGUS at Gibraltar by 24 hours. Operation Collar must not be postponed, and if the two above are adopted, date could be adhered to by moving R/V with SHEFFIELD nearer to Gibraltar. (V.C.N.S. 2120/11 to F.O.Force H)

FOXHOUND — Your 1202/10 (re FOXHOUND joining 8th D. Flotilla) Approved (D.O.D.(F) 2125/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic

DELHI — Expect to arrive Point B 1400/12 (DELHI 0925/11 to C.S. 1.) Your 2025/10. Full facilities Lagos, probably also Duala, nil at Victoria. (DELHI 0947/11 to C.S. 1) Cancel my 0925/11. Delayed by engine room defects. New time of arrival Point B., 1800/12 (DELHI, 1537/11, to C.S.1.)

CORNWALL — PRETORIA CASTLE arrived. My p, c and s at 0900N/11. Departures vide Admty 1435/4, HIGHLAND MONARCH. (CORNWALL 0901N/11)

/DANMARK.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

DANMARK — ex-Danish. Sailed Capetown 8/11 for Freetown with armed guard. Trouble with crew, Master pro-Nazi. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1020B/11 to S.O.I. Freetown)

DRAGON — Departure 0900/11 on patrol in accordance C. in C., S.A. 0951/11. (S.O.I. Freetown 1151 N/11)

Hospital Ship — My 1242/8/10. Dept. of Defence, Union of S.A., request for hospital ship still unsatisfied. Union now accepting Imperial casualties from Egypt, etc. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, to Admty. 1225/11)

D.F. Reports — Admty. 1342/11. (D.F. report- see U-Boat Campaign) Suggesting these bearings be treated with reserve. (C. in C., S.A. to Admty., 1635/11, 1935/11)

DEVONSHIRE — C.S. 1. leaving patrol in DEVONSHIRE and proceeding to Lagos (C.S.1. 1146/11) My 1146 For 13/11 read 12/11 (C.S.1.,2121A/11)

MORETON BAY — To act as ocean escort to Convoy S.L. 55 (C. in C., S.A. 1705N/11)

Wreckage — Following from S.C. (I) Montevideo. Norwegian tanker VARDEFKEL reports on 16/10 in 000° 12' N., 036° 33' W., she passed 2 rafts and later a lifeboat and wreckage painted yellow. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1938/11)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Operation White

Suspect Saint Elma aerodrome may no longer be used by bombers. Request confirmation by reconnaissance before operation White, and any information of other bomber aerodromes in Sardinia besides Alghero. (S.O. Force H., 0952/11 to N.O.I.C. Malta)

Greek Advance

Greek troops advancing on Epirus front across area between Acheron and Kalamos Rivers. Greeks request you bombard no land objective south of Kalamos River. (N.A.,Athens, 1012/11 to C. in C., Med.)
Military situation (M.A.Athens 0250/11)

Alexandria Air Raids

(N.O.I.C., 0840/11, see 10/11)

Submarine attacks on Destroyers

Repeating Capt S.I's 1131/10 to TRITON, TRUANT, OTUS. (V.A.Malta 0925/11)

Air Reconnaissance

(a) R.A.F. reconnaissance p.m./10 discloses no enemy activity at Valona, Santi Quaranta Konispol or Kalomos river bridges.
(b) One 7000 tons ship in Santi Quaranta unsuccessfully attacked.
(c) One unidentified ship sighted by coast watchers at noon today zig-zagging between Corfu and mainland possibly laying mines. (N.A.Athens, 1315/11)

Enemy Intelligence

Italians reinforcing Albania day and night especially at night. Owing to lack of facilities at Durazzo and Valona only four to five ships can be handled at the port every 24 hours.
Italians fear attacks by British Navy on lines of communication and by R.A.F. on these ports. (A.1.-)
Italians state British reinforcements to Greece are routed via Haifa and that Italians have prepared for this contingency. (A.3-)
(N.A. Angora, to C. in C., Med.,1106/11)

/Greek Coast.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Enemy Intelligence-Contd. Greek Coast watchers report one small ship at 1600 and 2 small ships at 1625, steering contrary courses 3 to 5 miles N. from Cape Lefkimo Corfu. (N.A.Athens, 1854/11 to C. in C., Med.)

TRITON / OTUS Orders to (V.A.Malta, 1907/11)

British Air Activity R.A.F. reconnaissance p.m./11 sighted convoy of 9 large ships arriving Valona Bay escorted by aircraft at 1530. No enemy movements observed South Valona. R.A.F. are bombing Durazzo tonight (N.A.Athens, 1941/11 to C. in C., Med.)

U-Boat Report British master reports sighting U-Boat 6 miles S.S.E. Malaga silhouetted against the moon 2245/3. (A.2) (S.O.I. Gibraltar, 1407/11)

Suez Canal Employees Urge action be taken without delay on my 112 /5. Pronouncement to be made by H.M.G. that for military reasons and/or attitude of Vichy Govt., control of Canal Company's affairs from France no longer admitted and will be vested in future in London Office. Failing some such action, deterioration in Canal Company's attitude with subsequent difficulties and possibly obstruction. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal 1932/11, 1941/11 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Raider Patrols CANBERRA CAPETOWN

My 1016/10. Amend. CANBERRA establish search in sector bounded by lines drawn 160° and 250° from position 04° N., 90° E. CAPETOWN act similarly in sector 270° to 315° from position 04° N., 90° E. Assume raider's speed 12 to 15 knots from 0230Z/11. Act at your discretion on receipt of any (?immediate) intelligence. (C. in C., E.I., 0418Z/11 to Force V) See also 1104/11, 1248/11.

AUTOMEDON, Raider Report

Matara intercepted incomplete R.R.R.R. report from British ship. AUTOMEDON at 0207Z/11 figures 418 N were read, remainder purposely jammed. Ship left Durban 29/10, due Penang 13/11 (C. in C., E.I. to Force V 0222Z/11)

CANBERRA

My 1836/10. Have felt it necessary to retain CANBERRA to assist in hunting down raider. Will release as soon as situation allows. Hope you approve. (C. in C., E.I., 0742Z/11 to A.C.N.B.)

CHAKDINA BHIMA PROTECTOR KANDAHAR (Storm)

My 2044/10., SHROPSHIRE made contact, CHAKDINA and BHIMA in tow in position 014° -02' N., 058° 40' E., at 0501Z/11. All now well and proceeding Bombay 7½ knots. Weather fair. PROTECTOR last seen about 0700/9 in position 014° 32' N., 057° 15' E., SHROPSHIRE and Oiler SLAVOL searching. KANDAHAR in approx. position 016° 07' N., 060° 10' E., at 0130Z/11 proceeding to Bombay. (C. in C., E.I., 0744/11)

Operation "Rope"

My 1916/10. Intend DORSETSHIRE shall carry out operation "Rope" p.m./18. (C. in C., E.I. 0906Z/11 to Admty.)

D.F. Report

Your 0851/11 (See U-Boat Campaign) Bearings from Ascension and Freetown 312° and 280° respectively 3 maximum probable errors minus 8° and plus 5° respectively. Suggest transmitter more likely to have been German naval unit within 100 miles of position 10° N., 33° W., (C. in C., S.A. 1027N/11 to Admty.)

/Mombasa.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

Mombasa

S.A.A.F. carried out 2 escort patrols Mombasa 11/11. 2 troopships, 2 warships escorted in, 1 warship escorted out. No enemy sighted. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1211/13)

WESTRALIA

My 0418/11. WESTRALIA proceeds now towards position 02.00 N., (?) 81° 30' E., using Walrus when practicable to find raider. (C in C., E.I., 1104/11)

CANBERRA
CAPETOWN

Search from dawn 12/11. CANBERRA and CAPETOWN are to resume search for raider furthest on circle in following sector, datum position and time and enemy's speed being as in my 0418/11. CANBERRS, 140° to 210°, CAPETOWN 210° to 240° (C. in C., E.I., 1248Z/11 to Force V)

American Ships

Request American ships bound for British ports on E Indies Station call Capetown or Singapore for information and instructions re channel (buoys, lighting restrictions, etc.,) (C. in C., E.I., 1844Z/11. to Admty)

China

Command Boundary

My 0743Z. Request immediate decision as C. in C., Far East passes through Singapore in a few days. In order to include all Andamans Island, etc., suggest a more suitable boundary that that given in Malaya tactical appreciation (C. in C., China, 0951Z/11 to Admty.)

LIVATHO

Your 2357/9. Wallem and Co, Hong Kong, claim Greek ship LIVATHO transferred to their ownership and Panama registered under name of HOOFSTAD on 28/10. Captain requires confirmation from Greek Govt., without which he is unwilling to change flag. Am not satisfied of genuiness of transfer. Ship being detained at Singapore. (C. in C., China, to Admty. 1005Z/11)

/Japanese Troops...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

China-Contd.

Japanese Troops

From Navy Dept., information of Japan's concentration of troops. No concentration of freight ships. Navy Dept., would probably have a fortnight's notice of this. (N.A.Washington, 1135/11 to Admty.)

America & West Indies

RANPURA Fire

Fire in after boiler room RANPURA at St. John N.B., 2/11. No casualties but damage to wiring. Repairs expected to take up to one month. (F.O. 3 B.S. to Admty 0951/11)

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Admty. 1213/11, requesting route. QUEEN ELIZABETH expected to leave New York 2030 G.M.T./12. Date of arrival Port of Spain. (N.C.S.O. New York, 1214/11)

Town Destroyers

Your 1147/5. Officers and ship's companies for 6 destroyers will sail probably fourth week of November. Would you consider taking over HAMILTON, as you will be standing by her during repairs? (1st S.L. to C.N.S. Ottawa, 2041/11)

Search for H.X. 84 Survivors

Your 1129/8. All destroyers at St. John's fit to sail for U.K. are to be sailed as soon as possible towards 52.40 N., 32.30 W to carry out search for any wreckage or survivors of Convoy H.X. 84. (D.D.O.D. (H) to R.A. 3., 2119/11) Admty 2119/11. In absence of other instructions, destroyers are to proceed by shortest route to position quoted, and unless S.O. is satisfied with their machinery efficiency, they should not be spread at more than visibility distance during search. (F.O. 3 B.S. to N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. 2259/11)

New Zealand

Greek Shipping

My 0044Z/9. Suva reports further telegrem received cancelling previous instructions (S.O.I. Wellington 0331Z/11 to Admty.)
Your 0044/9. Greek shipping Committee desire ALFIOS and EVINOS to remain at Naura until final destination has been determined. (D.T.D. to S.O.I., Wellington, 1402/11)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS

BESSHEIM	Norwegian, under German control. Probably leaving Oslo today for the North. (V.A.S. 0826/11, to S/M's on patrol, Area A)
PARIS	Norwegian, under German control. Probably leaving Oslo 12/11 for the North (D.S. 433 11/11)
BALI BRAVO I SARDINIA	Under charter to Germans for sailings between Oslo and the North (D.S. 433)
ORINOCO	P.C.O. New Orleans reports ORINOCO loading large stores. Probably sailing soon. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1502/11 to C. in C., A.W.I

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS

TERESA ODERO	Reported that all Italian ships at Puerto Cabello are interned, and that fuel oil taken by TERESA ODERO was for Harbour use only. (D.S. 433, 11/11)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS

MONIQUE	French tanker, 7011 tons. Lloyds report MONIQUE, which left Oran on 6/6 homeward bound from Haifa, said to have been sunk off French Coast later in that month. (D.S. 433, 11/11)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

11.11.1940
Monday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported

0908 — D.F., very approx. position of homeward bound U/B, 47° N., 04° W., (V.A.S. 0959/11)

0319 — D.F., U/B between 61 and 63° N., 6° and 8° W., (D.D.I.C. 1049/11)

0214 — D.F., on Series "A" at 0214/11, unknown enemy unit. Bearings. (D.D.I.C. 0851/11) My 0851. Further bearings, message from Simonstown and Durban indicate transmission may have been from a U/B within 150 miles of 30° N., 20° W., (D.D.I.C. 1342/11) (See East Indies, North and South Atlantic) (F.O.C.N.A., 1057/11, 1609/11) My 0851 and 1342/11. Further bearings obtained from Ascension and Freetown. In view of great divergence of bearings no fix can be obtained. Conditions for D/F bad. (D.D.I.C. 1703/11)

Damaged Italian U-Boat — My 1744/11. Aircraft had to return owing to weather. (C. in C., W.A., 1127/11 to D. 5.) If not in contact by 2000 today proceed to Dartmouth. (C. in C., W.A. 1305/11 to D. 5.) My 1544/10. If not in contact by 2000 today, own forces are returning to Dartmouth. (V.A.S. to S/M's Area B. 1614/11)

Mediterranean

2245/3 — 6 miles S.S.E. Malaga. (See FOREIGN STATIONS

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions

Italian- 1 possibly in area 48° to 49° N., 9° to 11° W., proceeding to Bordeaux slowly.
1 may still be in Azores area.
German- 1 off Lorient inward bound.
3 possibly N. of 55° N., and W. of 15° W., of which 1 may be somewhere about 61° N., 21° W., another in area 57° to 58° N., 20° to 22° W., whereabouts of the third unknown.
1 more is probably N. of 55° N., and E. of 15° W., 1 in area 61° to 63° N., 6° to 8° W.
1 in area 61° to 63° N., 6° to 8° W.,
1 was in 61° 33' N., 3° 10' E., at 1504/10 course 020°.
(D.D.I.C. 1225/11)

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MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.11.1940
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Search for ADMIRAL SCHEER

F.O.C. 15th C.S. in NAIAD with REPULSE and 4 Tribal destroyers left Scapa 1230 today to take over the Iceland-Faroes patrol from C. in C. Home Fleet. LETITIA joins the force tomorrow from the Clyde. WORCESTERSHIRE was withdrawn from Northern Patrol this evening.

British Air Activity

Activity was seriously curtailed by the weather today. The only patrols carried out were a few in the southern area.

Bomber Command carried out no operations last night or today. Coastal Command carried out no operations against Naval Objectives today.

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy O.B. 242

Convoy O.B. 242 was bombed early this afternoon in the approach to North Channel. No details received.

SS LILY

SS LILY (Greek 5719 tons) in Convoy S.C.10 reported being bombed this morning about 50 miles N.W. of Bloody Foreland.

BRITISH MARINER

BRITISH MARINER (Tanker 6996 tons) was machine gunned off Start Point at 1430 today.

Attack on Convoys FN 32 and FS 32

It is now stated that VIVIEN destroyed two (not one) enemy planes and severely damaged a third, and that VIMIERA destroyed two. (D.S. 435)

Considerable damage was caused in the town in an attack on Ramsgate this afternoon.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.11.1940
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Operation S.N. 43

1st M.L.S. this afternoon completed the laying of a line of mines in the North Western Approaches.

T.H.V. ARGUS

Trinity House Vessel ARGUS was sunk by a mine in the Thames Estuary this afternoon.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night probably took place off the East Coast and in the Thames Estuary.

Several mines detonated spontaneously at Plymouth last night, but the channel cannot be considered clear. NEWCASTLE is still held up.

Two mines self detonated at Milford Haven today.

Operations Against Vichy French

Air Reconnaissance for RICHELIEU (see 11/11) was established to westward of the Straits of Gibraltar at dawn today.
ARK ROYAL is at short notice ready to proceed to sea and fly off striking force if ordered to attack. RENOWN arrived this afternoon and with 2 destroyers was fuelled and kept at short notice.

South Atlantic

HERMES left Simonstown this afternoon to establish a patrol south of 200 miles south of Cape of Good Hope, supplemented by patrol by S.A.A.F. within 200 miles of the Cape, to intercept 5 Vichy French merchant vessels reported leaving Madagascar 6/11 for Dakar.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.11.1940
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Straits of Otranto Raid. Convoy Destroyed

The 7th C.S. with NUBIAN and MOHAWK last night carried out a raid into the Straits of Otranto. A convoy of 4 merchant ships escorted by 2 destroyers proceeding westward was encountered at 0115 off Valona. One merchant ship was sunk, two left burning and almost certainly sunk, and one escaped in a smoke screen, but was probably damaged. The escorting destroyers escaped, though one was hit. Our ships suffered no damage or casulaties.

F.A.A. Attack on Taranto

Aircraft of Fleet Air Arm last night attacked Taranto and preliminary reports state one LITTORIO and 2 CAVOUR class battleships hit by torpedo. The bombing results were not observed, though fires were started. 2 Swordfish were lost. From preliminary examination of photographs it appears that one LITTORIO class is badly damaged but not sunk.
One CAVOUR is beached to avoid sinking and is half under water, a second CAVOUR apparently damaged and believed beached, 2 cruisers have lists and are surrounded by oil fuel, and 2 auxiliaries appear to have their sterns under water.

R.A.F. attack on Valona

R.A.F. last night carried out an extremely successful raid on Sordinori Valona. Two large ships were burning fiercely about 16 miles west of Valona about 0300. The fires were so fierce that Tankers are suggested. About 2340/11 G.M.T. Taranto broadcast S.O.S. from Italian SS RAMB III (3667 tons) and ANTONIO LOCATELLI (Tanker 5691 tons) Stating they were being bombarded off Valona.

R.A.F. Attack on Benghazi Derna Bardia

R.A.F. last night attacked shipping at Benghasi; and aerodrome at Berca, Derna, Tobruk and Bardia were also bombed.

/ R.A.F.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.11.1940
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

R.A.F. Attacks on Durazzo

R.A.F. operating from Tatoi made a successful attack on Durazzo last night. The fuel depot is reported to have been completely burned out.

3 Blenheims bombed Durazzo again today, bombs bursting on the quayside amongst cranes and warehouses and on petrol dumps and a power station.

Air Raids on Alexandria

Two bombs were dropped during two air raids on Alexandria this evening. No damage or casualties resulted.

East Indies

On 8/11 an Italian aircraft en route to Italian East Africa landed in Crete. Her cargo was lubricating oil, indicating that the Italians are short.
COLOMBO left Mombasa a.m. (local time) to establish a patrol off Kismayu to prevent any supplies reaching Italian East Africa.
A Blenheim bombed Assab today.

America & West Indies

QUEEN ELIZABETH left New York today.

DIOMEDE left patrol off Martinique (to intercept CHARLES M see 7/11) to cover QUEEN ELIZABETH during her call at Trinidad.

Town class destroyers LANCASTER, MANSFIELD SHERWOOD, CHESTERFIELD sailed from St.Johns N.F. for the U.K. today. STANLEY was delayed by defects,

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

R.N. Air Station Defences. — Adty.'s 1725/11. Particulars of Defences. (Hatston 0947/12) (Crail 1042/12) (Roborough 1035/12) (Lee 1100/12) (St. Merryn 1151/12) (Yeovilton 1200/12) (Donibristle 1253/12) (Eastleigh 1403/12) (Worthy Down 1415/12).

DELUGE — At 1130/12. (D.C. 1136/12). At 2330/12. (D.C. 2331/12).

Rosyth. Guns for Site R.N.G. 8. — Adty. 1617/10. Propose this be taken at next Meeting of C.O.S. A.A. shadow on 16/11. (Air Ministry 1255/12 to Adty.)

Movements.

Nore Command. — Dispositions for night 12/13. (C.in C. Nore 0800/12)

WORCESTERSHIRE — Leave patrol to arrive Clyde 0800/15 passing west of Trawlers on patrol S. of T.R. 36 and through 060° 008 N., 010° 00' W. Thence through Minches by route as in my 1010/7 and 065° 35' N. 007° 00' W. Speed 12 knots. (F.O.C. N.P. 1432/12).

EXMOOR, FYTCHLEY — On arrival of DOUGLAS, EXMOOR and FYTCHLEY are to return to Scapa. If oiler PRESTOL has less than 500 tons of oil remaining escort her back. (A.C.O.S. 1514/12 to EXMOOR and FYTCHLEY).

Portsmouth. — Movements for night 12/13. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1523/12).

Orkneys and Shetlands. — Trawler lines occupied tonight 12/13. (A.C.O.S. 1527/12). Positions at 2000/12. (A.C.O.S. 1539/12)

Western Approaches. — Movements for night 12/13 (C.in C. W.A. 1550/12).

Rosyth. — Movements for night 12/13 (C.in C. Rosyth 1558/12).

CANADA — My 1327/11. Notwithstanding instructions in para. 2 CANADA should be sailed on 14/11. (D.O.D.(H), 1738/12 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

VAILLANT, VIKINGS (Patrol Vessels) — Request proposed programme stating date ready to sail. (D.O.D.(H) 1747/12 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

LEOPOLDVILLE, HIGHLANDER, REVENGE — LEOPOLDVILLE and HIGHLANDER delayed by weather. Intend sailing 0900/13 request F.O.I.C. Greenock will sail REVENGE and escort to R/V in position 54° 30' N., 5° 05' W. at 1730/13. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1937/12 to Admiralty.).

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

ADMIRAL SCHEER.

My 2119/11 to R.A. (3) and my 2116/11 to CHITRAL. It is reported that JARVIS BAY was sunk in action with a raider, and that a number of other ships escaping to the southward were attacked and subsequently sunk.
BONAVENTURE carried out a short sweep to the north-eastward of this position. LINCOLN and her group searched the position for three hours. LEAMINGTON and her group finally swept through position some 36 hours later.
None of these ships saw any sign of wreckage, but the weather and visibility at the time was very bad.
(A.C.N.S. F. 0015/12 to R.A.3, CHITRAL).

A.M. 2055/11. BONAVENTURE sailed from Scapa at 2305/11 routed (a)58° 15' N. 15°W. (b) 43° N. 30° W. Speed of advance to (a) 26 knots and from (a) to (b) 21 knots.
(F.O.C. 1st C.S. 0157/12 to Adty.)

Admiralty 2015/11. My position at 2136Z/5 when course was altered to southward was 55° N. 34° 09' W. Owing to weather maximum speed which could be maintained during the night was 14 knots.
2. Original intention was to spread at dawn and search to leeward but visibility coupled with steering and wireless defects in other two ships decided me against this.
3. Fuel situation in LUDLOW was critical to the end. (LINCOLN 1145/12 to Adty.)

In order to identify the warship which attacked HX 84 detailed descriptions are to be obtained from officers and crews of any merchant ships which were present. Particular points to be noted are as follows. Descriptions to be signalled to Admiralty. (D.D.I.C. 1151/12).

F.O.C. 15th Cruiser Squadron in NAIAD with REPULSE, MATABELE, MASHONA, SIKH, PUNJABI, leaves Scapa 1230/12 routed through 060° N. 005° 20' W. to R/V with LETITIA in position 062° 30' N. 012° W. at 1200/13 and comply with C.in C. H.F's 1246/9. (F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 1247/12 to C.in C. H.F.)

My 2123/11. After careful calculation it is estimated that at 1200/12 the mean wind since date of attack on convoy has been westerly.
(2) Due to drift, wreckage or boats may now be expected in vicinity 53° 00'N. 27°30' W.

/ (3) .....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

(3) Ships or boats would have probably drifted through the following positions: 53° 15' N. 52° 50' N., 53° 35' 32° 00' W., 53° 30' N., 30° 45' W., 54° 05' N., 29° 50' W. thence to 53° 00' N., 27° 30' W.
(V.C.N.S. 1436/12 to BONAVENTURE, CHITRAL).

My 2116/11 and 0011/12. Continue to keep W/T watch as for Northern Patrol.
(D.S.D.1732/12 and 0308/13 to CHITRAL)

Your 1234/12. Ref. Adty. 1151/12
Masters of vessels ex convoy H.X.84 report as follows:-
1 DELHI Swedish pennants 14.
time of attack 1710 - approx. zone time, about 2 hours West of Greenwich. Approx. position 53 N. 32 W. Weather fine and clear.
Enemy first seen port beam, 3 to 4 miles. Thought one of NURNBURG class. Can't say how many turrets - one funnel tower mast - 15 or 20 centimetre guns - saw JERVIS BAY hit on bridge by second salvo, also a tanker Ex HALIFAX hit. Convoy was turned to starboard DELHI then worked round and passed to northward of scene of action. At 1100/4 DELHI saw black cargo ship cross ahead of convoy from South to North ship about 8000 tons gross - painted standard merchant service colours - brown funnel and deck houses, flag on Gaff identified. Other ship steering about 350° at least 12 knots - no signals passed Captain of DELHI thought possibility two ships attacked convoy.

2. HJLAMAR-WESSEL - Norwegian. Pennants 31. Thought time of attack 1715 zone time - position 53 N. 32½ W. Weather fine and clear. Enemy first seen 3 points before port beam - distance about 5 miles - thinks it was cruiser not a pocket battle-ship - two turrets - one funnel - one tower mast. - Has a fragment of shell from enemy projectile which is being forwarded. JERVIS BAY ordered 40° turn to starboard just before enemy opened fire. Convoy made another 40° turn and received no more orders as JERVIS BAY was hit and burning. Master saw a cargo ship about 8000 tons cross ahead of the convoy from South to North during previous forenoon. Thought it might have been on East of the convoy - thought it was painted grey.

3. PERSIER - Belgian Pennants 22.
Time of attack 1720 zone time - approximate position 55 N. 33 W. Weather fine

/ clear ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

clear and smooth. Enemy first seen 8 miles port beam. Chief officer who had seen GRAF SPEE at Montevideo thinks it was same class. One tower mast - guns made sharp bang rather than loud boom. At time of attack CORNISH CITY was in Pennants 61. JERVIS BAY was between Pennants 41 and 61 and turned towards the enemy When she was 2 ship's length ahead of Pennants 11 she was hit on the bridge after ordering 40° turn to starboard and a further 40° - PERSIER went 10 miles to Westward and after 1900 returned to North East course until 2100 at which time there was still firing from Southward. At 2100 received S.O.S. from BEAVERFORD - Being shelled - latter ships being then about 30 miles to Southward namely 20 miles Southward namely 20 miles South Eastward of first position of attack. Also heard EMPIREPENGUIN report being shelled and sinking and CORNISH CITY and RANGITIKI being shelled. Between 11 and noon previous saw cargo ship right ahead of 6th or 7th column of convoy - about 8000 tons - red ensign - yellow funnel - at first thought it one of convoy but saw it leaving convoy at about 18 knots in the N.N.E. direction. Black hull - tall and thin funnel.

EMILE FRANCQUI Belgian. Sailed for Methil W.N. 36 11/11/40. No identification details except Master reported enemy shells on hitting water or target threw up a green light like a Verey's Light to height of 100 to 150 feet.
(N.C.S.O. Oban 2000/12 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).

Iceland. HONNINGSVAAG reports that FRIDTJOF NANSEN ran aground and sank. No sign of ship mentioned in Adty. 1735/5. Am recalling OBUS. (F.O.I.C. Iceland 1305/12 to Adty.) Your 1305/12. Every endeavour is to be made forthwith to capture or sink vessel referred to in my 2106/9. Ship may not arrive for several days. (A.C.N.S. H. 1949/12 to F.O.I.C. Iceland.)

Dover. No Patrols tonight owing to stress of weather (V.A. Dover 1414/12 to Adty.)

Operation WHITE Channel cannot be considered clear of Mines and not safe to sail NEWCASTLE except in tow of Paddle Tugs. Heavy seas made this impossible today, but hope sail her P.M./13. (C.in C. W.A. 1614/12 to Adty.)

/Enemy Expedition at Jan Mayen Island. .....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

Enemy Expedition at Jan Mayen Island.

My 1735/5 to C.in C. Home Fleet and F.O.I.C. Iceland.

1. Information from Norway now indicates enemy may land very small but important armed scientific expedition at Jan Mayen Island between 0600/15 and 0600/17 approximately.

2. Expedition is to be captured regardless of any identity claimed and personnel with all apparatus and documents brought to Scapa.

3. F.O.I.C. Iceland has already sent two Trawlers but they may not be in time to forestall enemy.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2117/12 to B.C.1.)

Submarines.

Brittany Coast.

Evidence now shows that area in my 1546/4 was only projected and not actually mined. Restrictions cancelled but when patrolling close in normally to keep at least 5 miles to seaward of line Penmarch Belle Ile.
(Capt. S.2 to TRIDENT).

Positions.

For following 24 hours at 0800/12. (V.A.S. 1711/12).

HOOD.

Cancel my 1939/8 re operating of HOOD in certain areas. (V.A.S. 1849/12, to S/M's on patrol in Area B (Negative))

British Air Activity.

A/S Patrol and Air Escorts.

Cross-over A/S Patrol near North Rona, and all Air Escorts, postponed on account of weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 0826/12).

S.A. 1 E.

Patrol postponed owing to weather (C.in C. Rosyth 0828/12) Patrol cancelled. (C.in C. Rosyth 1242/12 to Adty.)

Nore.
S.A. 9.

No Air R/C during the Night. S.A.9 will be flown at 0830. (C.in C. Nore 0837/12 to C.in C. Rosyth).

S.A.1 A.

Postponed. (C.in C. Rosyth 1242/12 to Adty.). Cancelled owing to weather (C.in C. Rosyth 1742/12 to Adty.)

ST. 1.
ST. 2.

Patrol ST.1 at 1415/13. Patrol ST.2 at 0900/13, but abandoned on 12/11 owing to weather (F.A.A. (?) Stornoway 1555/12 to A.C.O.S.)

Rosyth.

Air Escorts for 13/11. (C.in C. Rosyth 1724/12).

/ S.16 A. .....

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British Air Activity. (Continued)

S. 16A.) S. 16B.)	Cancelled owing to weather (C.in C. Rosyth 1742/12 to Adty.)
W.2.) Rona)	W.2 Patrol will be flown in place of Rona Patrol until further notice. (C.in C. Rosyth 1954/12).
M.V. attacked.	At 1250/12 A/C attacked with 2 torpedoes one M/V 6000 tons in 53° 34' N. 6° 37' E. Both missed. (H.Q.C.C. 2300/12 to Adty.)

Enemy Air Activity.

JACKAL shadowed	One A/C shadowing me in 50° 32' N. 3° 9' W. (JACKAL 1049/12).
LILY. attacked.	LILY (?) reports Bombs burning close in 55° 30' N. 9° 15' W. at 1028/12. (Base Ship, Scapa 1134/12).
Convoy ONSET.	Enemy A/C bombing Convoy in 55° 42' N. 6° 49' W. (Plymouth W/T 1250/12).
BRITISH MARINER machine gunned	(British Tanker, 6996 tons) Machine-gunned in 170° Start Point 3 miles. (Plymouth 1430/12).
Ramsgate bombed.	My 1700 to V.A. Dover. At 1650 today one A/C dropped 3 H.E. Bombs on town. 8 houses demolished, 15 seriously damaged, 250 slightly damaged. 2 casualties believed killed and 2 slightly injured. No A/A guns in vicinity. Red warning not sounded. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1853/12 to Adty.)

Mining.

Blyth.	Open. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 1439/12 to Adty.)
A/C mining of Plymouth 8/11.	Your 1314/11 para. 2. Owing to presence of other aircraft which were being plotted by the only two R.D.F's no plots can confirm position of aircraft over Narrows. Aircraft was seen approaching in glide from northward and two red lights were observed just before splash. After splash plane started up engine and disappeared to southward. Height is believed to have been just aboveballoons but evidence on this point is inconclusive. No parachute was seen, or whistle heard and it was considered that mine and not bomb was dropped. It is possible however that this deduction was incorrect. (C.in C. W.A. 1616/12 to Adty.)

/ Plymouth .....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Plymouth. Several Mines detonated spontaneously during the night, but Channel cannot be considered clear, and it would only be safe to sail NEWCASTLE in tow of Paddle Tugs. (C.in C. W.A. 1614/12 to Adty.) Since my 1946/10, 3 Mines detonated spontaneously. At 1800/11, 109° Penlee Point 1.5 miles. At 1950/11, 185° Breakwater Light 1.5 miles. At 0610/12, 019° Breakwater Fort 5.2 cables. All positions approximate. (C.in C. W.A. 1848/12 to Adty.)

S.N.43. Completed. Intend sailing for S.N.45 probably A.M./13. (R.A.M.L. 1621/12 to Adty.)

Milford Haven. 2 Ground Mines self detonated. One in 184° St. Ann's Light 2½ cables and one in 029° Great Castle Head Low Light 10¼ cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1647/12 to Adty.)

ARGUS. sunk. (Trinity House Vessel). No. 38 reports ARGUS struck Mine 3/4 mile East of Mouse Light Vessel at 1653. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1659/12 to C.in C. Nore). ARGUS sunk in 199° 3 cables from South Oaze Buoy. ROYAL EAGLE picked up one sole survivor. ARGUS was proceeding at slow speed after putting 5 reliefs on board Mouse Light Vessel. (C.in C. Nore 2225/12 to Adty.)

S.N. 45. My 1621/12. Intend sailing 0900/13 to lay S.N.45, starting at 1245 and finishing at 1600. ETA. Port ZA 0700/14. (R.A. M.L. 2140/12 to Adty.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German Main Units. Positions of following 7 ships not known since late October. (V.A.S. 1526/12 to S/M's in Area A).

Norwegian Coast. German W/T traffic indicates possibility of movement by German Force from Trondheim area to Skaggerack in the near future. (D.D.I.C. 2019/12 to C.in C. H.F.)

4 Fishing Vessels. At 1403/12, 4 Fishing Vessels steering 135° in line ahead in 55° 35' N. 6° 5' E. (H.Q.C.C. 2300/12 to Adty.)

/ PRINCESS RAGNHILDE ....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. (Continued)

PRINCESS RAGNHILDE

My 1143/29 para. (f).
(1) Norwegian woman survivor from Tromso saved from PRINCESS RAGNHILDE sunk about 23/10, states vessel carried among passengers about 300 German army cadets most of whom were lost. She added that vessel carried ammunition and that explosion which sank vessel was not due to mine but ammunition. C three.
(2) Two prominent Norwegians from Oslo shipping circles state that a Christiansand Germans offer 10,000 kroner for services of coastal steamers to carry ammunition from Christiansand to Northern ports.
B two. (N.A. Stockholm 1717/12 to D.N.I.)

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CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

PORTHCARRACK — (British, 406 tons). Grounded and broke up during westerly gale in about 51° 27' N. 30 37' W. at 2330/11. 4 rescued, 1 drowned, 3 missing. (O.I.C. Cardiff 1004/12 to Adty.)

FRIDTJOF NANSEN. — (Norwegian Fishery Protection Vessel) Ran aground and sank. See Operations.

EAGLESCLIFFE HALL. — (British, 1900 tons) S.O.S. Drifting ashore 10 miles South of South Stack. (EAGLESCLIFFE HALL 1309/12) Drifting ashore near Menai Strait entrance. Position becoming very grave (Seaforth Radio 1319/12) Now beaching at Multrath Bay and abandoning ship. (Seaforth Radio 1449/12).

WIVERN. — WIVERN's 2322/6. Propose repair broken housing locally. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1315/12 to Adty.)

WITTE ZEE. — (Rescue Tug) Ashore in about 51° 32' 30" N. 4° 13' 30" W. Likely to become total wreck. All crew rescued. (N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1350/12 to Adty.)

ANNE DE BRETAGNE. — British ship BERWICKSHIRE arrived today with 31 French Fishermen crew of French Barquentine ANNE DE BRETAGNE which was in collision with BERWICKSHIRE in 043° 41' north 032° 15' west at 0500/2/11. Crew state ANNE DE BRETAGNE bound from St. Pierre Newfoundland to French Morocco. Ship had to be abandoned and was subsequently sunk by gunfire by BERWICKSHIRE as danger to navigation. Presume your 1222/29/10 refers. (C.in C. S.A. 1942/12 to Adty.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys.

S.L. 53.) H.G.46.)	2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th escort groups required to meet. (C.in C. W.A. 1343/12, to WANDERER, ARROW, VETERAN, etc.).
S.L. 55.	MORETON BAY left 1730/12 as ocean escort. (S.O.I. Freetown 1841 N/12).
S.C. 10 B.	R.V. for DERBY COUNTY at 1400/13. (C.in C. W.A., 1729/12).
S.L.F.52) S.C.9.)	S.L.F. 52 arrived 3 ships, S.C.9 overdue ship arrived ALGARVE, POLYKARP (Du) BERKEL (Du) (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1210/12).
H.X.88.	Bermuda departure times, escort MONTCLARE (C.in C. A.W.I., 1103/12).
O.B.M. 243.	Sailed for Clyde, 1715/12. Escort ROSEMARY (N.C.S.O. Milford H., 1931/12).
F.N. 33.	My 0221/8. Postponed 24 hours. (C.in C. Rosyth 1519/12).
E.N. 24.	Cancelled, weather. Ships will be included in E.N.25 (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1627/12).
C.E.16.	Postponed, weather. (C.in C. Nore 0930/12)
O.B.243.	Weatherbound at Liverpool, Clyde, Oban and Belfast portions not to sail until further orders. (D.T.D., 1305/12).
H.X.85.	Date and route. Escort RAJPUTANA, returns Halifax. (D.T.D. 1823/12) Draft sailing telegram (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. 1355/11).
Ships' W/T.	In view of Admty. 1906/29 and the fact that oscillating is still occurring it is proposed to commence with H.X.87 to seal W/T office of all ships in convoy except a few selected ships, with orders that seals are not to be broken except in fog or emergency or by orders from Commodore. After fog or emergency has passed Masters are to be ordered to again seal ships own W/T office and full report why it was opened and for how long is to be made to N.C.S.O. at Port of arrival. (N.O.I.C. Halifax 1519/12 to C.in C. A. and W.I.)

H.X.84
(raider attack
5/11).

.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping. (Continued)

H.X.84. (raider attack 5/11) — N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1632/11. Request all possible information from survivors of JERVIS BAY now in Sedish STUREHOLM. No Press publicity of losses until released in London. (D.D.I.C. 1131/12, to R.A. 3 B.S.)
GLOUCESTER CITY arrived here 2100 G.M.T. with 7 boatloads of survivors of H.X.84. Total landed 92 - TREWELLARD, 25; SAN DEMETRIO, 23; FRESNO CITY, 24; KENBANE HEAD, 20. (N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F., 2121/12) See also America and West Indies.

Troop Convoys.

LADY OF MAN. — Your 1915/10 (sailing of 900 troops from Douglas). VANQUISHER detailed. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool to Admty. 1210/12).

DUCHESS OF BEDFORD. — Route and E.T.A. in 10° W. (D.T.D. 1058/12, 1303/12.

PASTEUR — Route and E.T.A. in 10° W. (D.T.D.1058/12, 1303/12.

CAMERONIA. — E.T.A. 10° W., and route. (D.T.D. 1303/12)

ALMEDA STAR. — E.T.A. 10° W., and route. (D.T.D. 1303/12)

WESTERN PRINCE. — My 1531/11. Sailing postponed 24 hours. (N.C.S.O. Liverpool, 1010/12).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French.

Recognition Signals. Your 1919 N/10, re issue of recognition signals to Free French aircraft. Concur. (D.S.D., 1734/12, to C.in C. S.A.)

CUBA Examination. Your 1733/12. CUBA has now been rummaged by Customs staff in co-operation with Naval Officers. Cargo reported in order by Comptroller of Customs and no trace of gold or valuable cargo. Captain has not been informed that ship will be released, but thinks there is a possibility of this. Arrangements are being made for interviewing the Naval officers and ratings and merchant officers and crew.
Request earliest information as to financial terms for Naval and Military personnel willing to join (A) Free French or (B) British, Service. (C.in C. S.A., to Admty., 1853/12).

STRASBOURG, Dakar. Re Sierra Leone telegram 529 of 8/11 to S. of S. and my 2009/5 (information from French officer escaped from Dakar) and my 1731/12, consider there is no suggestion French battle-cruiser STRASBOURG was at Dakar 29/10 when these officers left, and that report that she arrived at Dakar shortly after incident is not reliable. (C.in C. S.A., to Admty. 2015/12).

FUTRA SINAIA Reported left Casablanca for Dakar 7/11 (See French Merchant Ships)

PONCELET crew. No.1539. Officers and crew of PONCELET, scuttled off Libreville, are now in internment camp at Ibadan being treated as undesirable aliens. Grateful for early instructions as to their disposal, and treatment pending removal. Camp urgently required by military. (Govr., Nigeria, No. T.0.0./11 to S. of S., received 0115/12).

Preparations to intercept JEAN BART, RICHELIEU. See North Atlantic.

Enemy Intelligence. My 2009/5. Information from Lieut. Bertrand Garde (corrupt group) Indigene who escaped from Dakar with Lieut. Montezer.
(1) Cruisers GEORGES LEYGUES and MONTCALM were still at Dakar. Both seen by him 29/10, the day he left. No Destroyers then present.
L'AUDACIEUX (2) The Destroyer beached and burnt out at Rufisque 23-25/9 was L'AUDACIEUX casualties 100 killed. The other Destroyer damaged during action sailed for Casablanca after temporary repairs.
(3) Prisoners held include 8 Officers of De Gaulle forces and 6 British airmen held at Koulikoro in Sudan.

/ (4) .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Operations Against Vichy French (Contd.)

L'AUDACIEUX (contd.)

(4) Information about RICHELIEU is conflicting. Bertrand says she is resting on bottom and cannot be moved. Montezer stated that she is moved about harbour at intervals and further report in my telegram 1403/11 states she was leaving. Request may be informed if any other information is available. (C.in C. S.A., 1731/12, to Admty.)

North Atlantic.

Preparations to intercept JEAN BART, RICHELIEU.

C.in C. S.A. 1403/11. Air reconnaissances will be established to westward at dawn. ARK ROYAL at short notice ready to go to sea and fly off striking force if ordered to attack. RENOWN expected 1515 with 2 destroyers will be fuelled and kept at short notice. 3 destroyers expected from Malta p.m./13. Owing to defects and escort duties only one destroyer is available here now. 1 submarine expected to be ready for sea p.m./12. (F.O.C.N.A., 0040/12).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN

Can ROYAL SOVEREIGN be used for "Collar" if required? (F.O., Force H, 0846/12, to Admty.)

Force H.

Cancel my 1150/11. ARGUS to arrive Gibraltar 2200/14. Relief for WRESTLER being arranged. Fuel permitting, DESPATCH to remain with ARGUS parting company so as to arrive Gib. by 1200/14. (S.O. Force H 1209/12).

Operation White postponed.

Your 2120/11. Propose to postpone "White" 24 hours. This will also enable NEWCASTLE to be passed through if she is delayed up to a further 48 hours after 1800/12. Further reasons. (F.O. Force H to Admty., 1132/12, amended 1531/12).
Your 1132/12 re postponement of "White". Approved. (D.O.D. (F), 1609/12 to F.O. Force (H))
Your 2120/11 request NEWCASTLE be sailed at highest speed practicable.
(S.O. Force H, 1622/12 to Admiralty).
Hopes to sail NEWCASTLE p.m./13.
(C.in C. W.A., 1614/12, to Admty.)

D.F. Report.

My 1609/11. Due to poor D.F. conditions this position cannot be accepted as even approximate. (F.O.C. N.A., 1213/12).

/DOMINE Intercepted ....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Continued)

DOMINE Intercepted. — Your 1835/9 Spanish s.s. DOMINE stopped by British trawler. 50 out of 500 mail bags were removed on 28/10 as it was suspected they contained enemy correspondence and propaganda. This suspicion found to be correct. My 1204/12 refers to policy in such cases. (F.O.C.N.A. 1206/12 to N.A. Madrid).

Movements. — WRESTLER leaves position 038° 15' N. 012° 48' W. 1600/13 E.T.A. at Gibraltar 1600/14 ARGUS escorted by WISHART and VIDETTE E.T.A. at Gibraltar 2200/14 DESPATCH E.T.A. at Gibraltar 1200/14. KINGSTON TOPAZ on patrol off (?Lisbon), KINGSTON TURQUOISE on patrol off (?mainland). ARGUS leaves Gibraltar 1800/12 speed 15 knots to patrol off Azores. ROCHESTER arriving Gibraltar 16/11 from U.K. course and speed unknown. (F.O.C. N.A. 1530/12 to TRIUMPH).

Enemy Agent, Algeciras. — British S.S. SHAFTESBURY arrived Mobile 8/11. Master reports intercepting the following at 0009 GMT 1/11 on 33 metres (begins) Number ten Algeciras, British convoy of 60 ships left Gibraltar Thursday accompanied by destroyers, patrol boats and armed auxiliary ships. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1714/12).

South Atlantic.

Coaling Freetown. — My 1633/10/8. Ships can now be supplied with up to 400 tons coal at Freetown. (C.in C. S.A. 1035/12 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Hospital Ship. — Your 1225/11 (request for Hospital ship still unsatisfied) not understood in view of my 2231/7. (D. of S.T. 1957/12 to (N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

NEPTUNE, DEVONSHIRE — Possibility of armed raider makes it necessary to strengthen escorts for troop convoys. NEPTUNE to proceed to Lagos and C.S.1 requested to transfer flag to her on arrival. Further signal will be made re DEVONSHIRE's movements. (D.O.D. (F), 2334/12 to C.in C. S.A.).

DEVONSHIRE. — Important it should not be known DEVONSHIRE will be leaving patrol off Libreville. (D.O.D. (F), 2337/12 to C.S.1.)

/ HERMES
S.A.A.F. A/C. .....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

HERMES
S.A.A.F. A/C.

C.in C. S.A. 2025/6. HERMES left Simonstown 1500/12 to establish patrol from position 180° 200 miles from Cape of Good Hope as far south as can be covered according to weather conditions, using aircraft if possible during daylight hours. Coastal aircraft of S.A.A.F. are maintaining seaward daylight patrol from Cape of Good Hope and Cape of Receiffe to a depth of 200 miles. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1530 Z/12).

DELHI.

Coming transfer to China. (See China Station).

Mediterranean.

Taranto Bombed, Italian Battleships Damaged, Operation "Judgment".

Attack on Taranto by F.A.A. night of 11-12/11. A/C report torpedo hit with Dupleix pistol on one LITTORIO and 2 CAVOURS. Bombing results not observed, but fires started. 2 Swordfish failed to return. If conditions favourable hope to repeat attack tonight before defences strengthened. (C.in C. Med., to Admty., 0805/12).

Air reconnaissance Taranto 1040 G.M.T., six battleships, seven cruisers, about 23 destroyers or torpedo boats. Of total of six cruisers in inner harbour, four cruisers being moved from wall. One of six battleships was under water. One other battleship in outer harbour definitely in trouble, number of small boats all round it. Battleship under water was one nearest southern jetty. Battleship in trouble was one nearest the Island in harbour.
At 1055 G.M.T. two merchant vessels and one destroyer 16 miles N.E. of Cape Alice course 360° 8 knots, destroyer course 170° 12 knots. T.O.O. 1525/12. (V.A. Malta, 1539/12).

Details of Damage.

Have examined Taranto photographs carefully. Appears that (a) 1 LITTORIO class is down by bows with forecastle awash and a heavy list to starboard. Numerous auxiliaries alongside. (b) 1 CAVOUR class is beached opposite entrance to graving dock under construction. Stern including Y turret is under water. Ship is heavily listed to starboard. (c) Inner harbour. 2 cruisers are listed to starboard and are surrounded by oil fuel. (d) 2 auxiliaries off Commercial Basin appear to have sterns under water. Congratulations on a great effort. Our small contribution today 1 MACCHI 200 and 1 corpse.
(V.A. Malta, 2031/12, to C.in C. Med.)

/ My 2031/12. ....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

My 2031/12. Stem only of Northern CAVOUR class battleship shows on photograph but by fixing from entrance of Passagio Piccolo which also just shows the bow is in about 4 fathoms. Oil round the stem, seems certain ship has been beached. The remaining one LITTORIO and 2 CAVOUR class battleships appear undamaged.
(V.A. Malta, 2345/12).

Malta Report, Taranto, Enemy Intelligence, Malta Raid.

Combined services report Malta up to 1700 hours 12/11 all times G.M.T. 1340 to2356 Sunderland 228 Sqdn. carried out moonlight patrol Gulf of Taranto to report Units of Italian Fleet leaving Taranto Harbour. Nil report. Recco Eastern Ionian Sea from Malta included photographs recco. Gulf and Harbour Taranto. 0745 to 1235 Glenn Martin at 1040 reported Taranto 6 battleships 7 cruisers and about 23 destroyers or torpedo boats, 6 of these cruisers in inner harbour. 1 battleship disabled and down by stern and another surrounded by small boats appeared in trouble - photographs confirm. At 1055 2 M.Vs and 1 destroyer position 16 miles North East Cape Alice M.Vs course 360° speed 8 knots. Destroyer course 170° speed 12 knots. 1022 to 1435 Blenheim at 1410 saw 1 Italian schooner position 15 miles East of Cape Passero marked V 5 T O M on close investigation she opened fire with mgs. innaccurately. 1437, Sunderland of 230 Squadron. Moonlight patrol Gulf of Taranto to report enemy naval units leaving Harbour. Due back 0001 hours. 0840 to 0900 6 Macchi 200's in pairs crossed Malta at 20,000 feet. Formation split up by accurate A.A. fire. 6 Hurricanes 2 Gladiators up. 1 Macchi 200 shot down by Hurricanes into sea. (H.Q. Malta 1745/12)

Valona Bombed.

About 2340/11 G.M.T. Taranto broadcasting S.O.S. from Italian RAMB III and ANTONIO LOCATELLI stating they were being bombarded off Valona. (Capt. O.S. Alexandria, 0423/12) R.A.F. carried out extremely successful raid Sordinori, Valona, last nightand report that 2 big ships were burning fiercely about 16 miles west of Valona about 0300. Fires were so fierce that tankers are suggested. (N.A. Athens, 0949/12, to C.in C. Med.)

Greece 11/11, ...

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

Greece 11/11, 1335 hours. 3 Blenheims 30 Sqdn. bombed harbour and aerodrome Valona from 18,000 ft., bombs falling on large building on aerodrome and on docks. Details damage not observed. Intense A/A fire encountered. All aircraft returned safely. Blenheims 30 Sqdn. maintained steady fighter patrols Athens area. No enemy sighted. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. 1318/12) Later attack, night of 11-12, see (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1211/13)

Raid on Durazzo.

During night of 11-12/11, R.A.F. made a most successful attack on Durazzo. Report 3 fires started on the jetty later merged into one, visible 100 miles away. Fuel depot destroyed. Pilot leading the raid said "It was the best raid the Squadron has done since the outbreak of the war". (The Times Correspondent, Athens, 13/11, in The Times 14/11) (See H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. 1211/13).

Otranto Raid, Enemy Convoy Attacked. 7 C.S.

My 1357/4. 7th C.S. NUBIAN and MOHAWK raided into Strait of Otranto night of 11-12/11. Convoy of four merchant ships escorted by two destroyers proceeding westward encountered at 0115 off Valona. One merchant ship sunk, two left burning and almost certainly sunk, one thought to have escaped in smoke screen but probably damaged. Escorting destroyers escaped but one hit. No damage or casualties to our ships. (C.in C. Med., 1459/12)

M.E. Air Report.

Egypt 11/11. 113 Squadron located 1 submarine and 1 merchantman 5,000 tons 6 miles off Ras El (32° 38' 23° 9' E.) proceeding north west. No other shipping off-shore between Derna and Barrani. No change Derna. 9 seaplanes Bomba. Day 11/11. A Hurricane 33 Squadron despatched to attack enemy seaplane reported by 113 Squadron at Sollum failed to locate it. 2 Blenheims 55 Squadron and a Valentia of 216 Squadron attached 202 Group bombed the enemy aircraft reported concentrated at Barrani by 113 Squadron. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1316/12).

/ Air Bombing, Benghasi, Derna Tobruk. ....

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.(contd.)

Air Bombing, Benghasi, Derna, Tobruk.

Night 11-12/11. Blenheims 113 Squadron attacked shipping Benghasi and hangars Berca destroying 2 bombers and damaging other aircraft and buildings at Berca. Several warships anchored off Benghasi as A.A. guard ships. 5 Blenheims 113 Squadron attacked the barracks at Derna demolishing some buildings. 7 Blenheims 55 Squadron bombed Tobruk foreshore starting a large fire which was seen at great distance by aircraft of 113 Squadron returning from raid one hour later. Blenheims 55 Squadron also attacked Bardia. Between 2040 and 2100 hours enemy aircraft operating singly dropped a few bombs along coast South East of Aboukir at Helwan at Suez and 8 miles South East of Kabrit. Lighthouse and Government buildings set on fire at Suez. No other damage or casualties reported.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1317/12).

Enemy Air Raid, Suez.

Enemy Routes.

TETRARCH reports approach channel appearing in direction 60° from 31.42' N., 19.30' E., 10 miles wide. Eastbound convoys making night passage at 7 knots to cross 100 fathoms line at dawn.
(N.O.I.C. Malta to ROVER, 1307/12).

Operation "White".

Your 1005/11. Operation White. Watch on main Italian Fleet in Taranto and Brindisi will be maintained. Search ahead of your force to northward of Cape Bon and Galita Island will be carried out to locate any Italian units liable to encounter NEWCASTLE during final run. Reconnaissance of Cagliari in accordance your 0952/11 is being carried out on 13/11. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1927/12) Hoped to sail NEWCASTLE p.m./13 (C.in C. W.A. 1614/12, to Admty.)

NEWCASTLE

Alexandria Raids.

Air raids 1937 to 2037 and 2056 to (?)2124. Two bombs, no casualties, no damage. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1132/12) Air raids, 1900 to 1945, about 15 bombs, 2000 to 2100 about 12 bombs. Slight damage to 2 mercantile transit sheds and Ras El Tin. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria 2232/12)

Operation "Collar".

Adty. 1633/8. Concur with proposals (C.in C. Med. 1534/12)

/ Greece. .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Greece.

Situation Report. (M.A. Athens to W.O. 0300/12).
Instructions to Military Mission, Greece, handed to General Heywood. (W.O., to C.in C. M.E., 0330/12).

Gulf of Athens.

Learned from most secret source that Greek navigation instructions for Gulf of Athens are known to Italians. Request pass this information to Greek Chief of Staff. (C.O.I.S. to N.A. Athens, 1029/12).

Greek Naval Action, Otranto.

Greeks planning raid into Straits of Otranto night of 14-15/11, by 5 T.B.D's of HYDRA and KING GEORGE class. Grateful for cover against interception by forces from Taranto. Also propose to make another raid preferably by day if you can provide cover.
Efforts being made to put up air reconnaissance over Italian Southern Adriatic ports 13/11 and 14/11. (N.A. Athens to C.in C. Med., 1836/12).

Italian Morale.
Objectives.

Reports from Greek Diplomatic and Consular Corps returned from Italy. Low state of Italian morale. VULCANIA, SATURNIA, (4?) ships of AUGUSTUS type and many other merchant vessels lying in Port of Genoa. Other objectives suggested are shipyards at Sestri Ponente. (Service Attaches, Athens, 2000/12).

Italy and Corfu.

Transmitting message from Greek Ambassador, Angora, 2200/11, of information from Rome that Italian Fleet concentrating at Taranto for air attack on Corfu. (Service Attaches, Athens, 2203/12)

East Indies.

PROTECTOR tug.

My 1838/10. For H.M.S. PROTECTOR read tug PROTECTOR (in company with CHAKDINA) (C.in C. E. Indies, 0402 Z/12).

Patrol off Kismayu.

Italian A/C en route to Italian East Africa landed in Crete. Cargo was lubricating oil, which shows how short Italians must be, and necessity of establishing a patrol off Kismayu to prevent supplies reaching them. In spite of your shortage of ship, it is necessary for this patrol to be instituted with as little delay as possible. (1 S.L., to C.in C. E.I., 0114/12).

/ COLOMBO. ....

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Continued)

COLOMBO.

COLOMBO to leave Mombasa a.m./13 to patrol off Kismayu to intercept shipping and dhows using the port. To report longest time she can remain on patrol so as to arrive Mombasa with 15% fuel remaining and allowing for most economic steaming whilst on patrol. (C.in C. E.I., 0446 Z/12).
Your 0446/12. Expect to be able to remain on patrol until a.m./26/11. (COLOMBO, 1704Z/12 to C.in C. E. Indies)

Policy Patrols and Escorts.

Admiralty 0114/12. This had been arranged. My policy has been to establish this patrol whenever cruisers have been available from escort duty, allowance being made for short spell in harbour for rest and maintenance. Due to external docking and a heavy demand for escorts the shortage of ships is acute and in consequence patrols have been (? few) and trade routes have remained unprotected except for the occasional free ship making passage to pick up next convoy or keep its docking date. I appreciate help I have had in Indian Ocean and Red Sea from cruisers remaining with convoys from U.K. and others homeward bound but, even should this continue, I am not hopeful of being able with present forces to maintain a permanent patrol off Kismayu unless this is to take precedence of escort, which I assume is not the intention. The fact that Italians are forced to transport lubricating oil supplies by air to East Africa suggests to me that our present measures are successfully preventing supplies reaching there by sea. However I realise that these measures must be tightened up to utmost and every effort is being made to do so.
(C.in C. E.I. 1910Z/12 to Admty.)

CANBERRA.

Your 0742Z/11. In view of A.C.N.B.1216Z/10, CANBERRA not now required at Fremantle until (date), but in any case she should be retained if prospect of hunting down raider. (A.C.N.B., 0215Z/12 to C.in C.E.I.)
My 0215Z in addition PERTH, CANBERRA is required to escort U.S.7 from Freemantle to Colombo. Request release to arrive Freemantle a.m./21/11, but if not possible due to present operations convoy will be delayed. (Naval Board, Melbourne, 1720Z/12 to C.in C. E. Indies).

/ Local Defence. .....

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Continued)

Local Defence. Admty. 1541/8.
(1) Ceylon Government approve provision Ceylonese personnel for installation and manning but will not commit themselves to meeting pay and allowances without further information.
(11) Matter is being taken up by Brigadier Ceylon.
(111) As Naval responsibility is confined to provision of gun, mounting and ammunition, request (a) Colonial Office may inform Seychelles (b) War Office may conduct any further negotiations necessary regarding finance, and may provide any subsidiary equipment required. (C.in C. E.I., 0802Z/12 to Admty.)

CANBERRA)
CAPETOWN)
WESTRALIA)
DURBAN)

Movements ordered after dark 12/11. CANBERRA proceeds to search during daylight 13/11 an area (defined) CAPETOWN returns to Colombo at best speed. WESTRALIA proceeds 12 knots to 002° 00' S., 073° 00' E. to cover shipping. DURBAN to extend patrol from vicinity of Achin Head to 003° N., 088° E. (C.in C. E. Indies, 1028Z/12 to Force V).

LEANDER KINGSTON Arrival 1030Z/12/11. (N.O.I.C. Adenk 1125Z/12 to Admiralty).

Convoy B.N.8½ Details. Escort RANCHI and HECTOR to Gulf of Aden, then Force Q. Route. (N.C.S.O. Bombay 0905Z/12).

British Prestige. Kamaran No.48 to Information Officer, Aden (begins) remarkable rise in British stock apparent throughout Yemen (corrupt group) due to action of KIMBERLEY, victory Galabat, and operation KASSBOA. British successes openly appreciated everywhere (Ends). (S.N.O. Red Sea Force, 0609Z/12).

French Shipping. My 0908/7 re summaries of manifest of French ships sent into British Ports and subsequently amended signals are now to be taken as applying to all French ships sent into a British port for examination. (C.in C. E.I. 0528/12).

Massawa Bombed. Day 11/11. 0930 hrs. 3 Blenheims 14 Squadron attacked main quays and destroyer base, Massawa from 14,500 feet, bombs falling south of target on buildings in town. 5 Blenheims 45 Squadron attacked petrol dump Zula from 15,000 feet, encampment Keren from 3,000 feet and W/T Station, Dohul Island from 2,000 feet. 2 small fires started in camp at Keren, other targets missed. All aircraft returned safely. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1318/12).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

N.E.I. Navy Co-operation.

My 1213Z/9. Changed attitude of Govr. Gen., Dutch E.I. Is asking permission to send officer to Singapore for co-operation in plans.(C.in C. China, 0251Z/12, to Admty.)

LIVATHO

My 1006/11. Greek Consul Gen., Shanghai, states his Government has forbidden transfer of flag. (C.in C. China, 0257 Z/12, to Admty.) My 0257. LIVATHO has been allowed to sail under Greek flag to Calcutta. (C.in C. China, 1003Z/12, to Admty). Your 1005/11. Case reported to Greek Shipping Committee who are investigating transfer of flag. (Hd. of M. to C.in C. China, 1705/12).

DELHI.

Necessary boiler tubes be renewed before May 1941, work to be undertaken at Singapore. If situation allows, intended that a D class cruiser from China Station should transfer to S. Atlantic Station prior to this and that DELHI should subsequently transfer to China Station. Ship selected to meet DELHI at Mauritius to exchange station orders. C.in C's China and S.A. to propose dates for this transfer. (D.O.D. (F) 1805/12).

America and West Indies.

JERVIS BAY and H.X.84 survivors.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1632/11. Request soon as possible all information from survivors of JERVIS BAY now in Swedish STUREHOLM. Identity of raider of great importance. (D.D.I.C. to R.A. 3 B.S. 1131/12).

Your 1131/12.
Evidence of survivors definitely tends to show that enemy had one triple turret forward and one aft foremast with control top and one funnel, but due to long range of about 14 miles details could not be observed. All survivors state that only one enemy ship present. First two salvoes were six guns, and third put fore control, steering gear, and W/T in JERVIS BAY out of action. Ship never got within gun range but held enemy fire and was continuously hit for 55 minutes, subsequently sinking about three hours after enemy was sighted. Survivors names follow in my 2001/12, none seriously injured. Due to heavy gale ensuing considered unlikely that there are more. Board enquiry being held tomorrow. Master of PACIFIC ENTERPRISE and STUREHOLM both full of praise for JERVIS BAY's determined action. (F.O. 3 B.S., 1942/12, to Admty.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and W. Indies. (Continued)

Channel Buoys. Your 1844Z/11 re instructing ships to call at the ports they are arriving at to obtain information regarding Channel Buoys, para. 3 all N.C.S.O's and Consular Shipping Adviser's Canada and U.S.A. informed (Chief of N.S. of Canada, 1825/12 to C.in C. W.I.).

Australia.

CANBERRA. Retention in East Indies. (See East Indies).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11. 1940.
Tuesday.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

HELGOLAND. Possibly sighted by PACIFIC EXPLORER (S.O.I., Kingston, 0931/12). See America and West Indies.

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

FUTRA
SINAIA — Following from Navy Dept. Reported from Dakar French steamers FUTRA and SINAIA left Casablanca for Dakar 7/11. (N.A. Washington, 1245/12).

CARAIBE — Following from R.O., Lumlo. CARAIBE sailed noon/12. (Capt i/c Simonstown, 1515Z/12).

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1940.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1335. 54 to 55° N. 9 to 13° W., position indefinite (D.S. 435).

1409. 55 to 55.30 N., 9 to 12° W., position indefinite (D.S. 435).

1614. 55 to 56° N., 15 to 20° W., position indefinite (D.S. 435).

2325. 57.30 to 58.30 N., (8 to 22° W., position indefinite D.S. 435).

1251. 48 to 50° N., 12 to 16° W., position indefinite (D.S. 435)

Routes. It is now doubtful if incoming U boats make Belle Ile. TAKU patrolled from 23/10 to 25/10 line 245° from North Point of Belle Ile during which period at least one U-boat arrived Lorient unsighted. (Capt. S.2, 1025/12, to TRIDENT)

Estimated U/B disposition.

Italian - One entering Gironde.
One may still be in Azores Area.
One in area 55-56° N., 16-18° W. at 1504/11.

German - One in area 57-58° N., 18-20° W.
One in area 58-59° N., 21-23° W.
One or possibly two more in N.W. Approaches east of 20° W. whereabouts unknown.
One about 61° N., 21° W.
One probably N.E. of Muckle Flugga bound for Germany.
(D.D.I.C. 1238/12).

Submarines Attacked.

North Atlantic.

Depth charge attacks were carried out on 8/11 by VIDETTE, WISHART, and WRESTLER in position approx. 252 degrees Cape Trafalgar 11.5 miles. on firm contact in each case. In no case was any visible result obtained. On 9/11 UPRIGHT also obtained contact in position 235 degrees Cape Trafalgar 13 miles. It is considered that contact in each case was a wreck. (F.O.C.N.A. 1602/12).

(50)

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Battery of St. Margarets shelled. — Enemy coastal batteries fired 14 rounds between 1430 and 1704 today, which fell near the new heavy gun emplacements near St. Margarets.

NEWCASTLE — NEWCASTLE left Plymouth this afternoon. Operation "White" has been postponed 24 hours to enable her to take part.

Dover Patrols. — Owing to stress of weather, Dover patrols last night were cancelled.

Convoy H.X.84. — 8 ships totalling 47,768 tons are still missing from Convoy H.X.84 (attacked by raider 5/11) only one (BEAVERFORD 10,042 tons) is definitely known to have been sunk. Survivors from some of the other missing ships have been landed in Canada.

S.S. ARDMORE. — Cork Steam Packet ARDMORE due at Fishguard 1500/12 is overdue and cannot be traced.

British Air Activity.

Bomber Command. — Last night, the submarine base at Lorient and the harbours of Flushing and Dunkirk were attacked. Single Blenheims attacked docks at Boulogne and Le Havre.

Coastal Command. — The dock area at Zeebrugge was bombed by a Blenheim last night.
A Hudson this morning bombed the Amsterdam Canal. Specially equipped Whitleys escorted Convoy O.B. 242 up to 2400/13 when a similarly equipped Sunderland took over.

Enemy Air Activity.

EMPIRE WIND sunk. — S.S. EMPIRE WIND was bombed and hit this morning about 250 miles west of Ireland and is stated to have sunk. The ship was originally in Convoy O.B. 240.

S.S. ANVERS sunk. — S.S. ANVERS (Belgian 4398 tons) was sunk during air attack on Convoy W.N.35 off Rattray Head at 1754 today.

Dover bombed. — Dover was bombed this afternoon. No naval damage occurred.

COLLINGWOOD. — Some casualties were caused and slight damage occurred in camp when COLLINGWOOD was bombed at 1305 today.

/ Mining. .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Two Swordfish laid mines off the Mouth of the Ems River and in the Hubert Gat at 2015 and 2035 respectively.

There was a marked increase in mine-laying activity by air, the areas covered including, besides the E. Coast of Scotland, N.E. England, East Anglia, the Thames estuary and probably S.W. England.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft took place tonight in the Firth of Forth. The approximate positions where the mines fell was noted. The port was closed from West Gate Inchkeith to 2° 52' W. at 2155.

Weather interfered with routine sweeps at Dover today. Two mines were found.

BRITISH PRESTIGE damaged.

A Mine exploded in the Humber this morning close to tanker BRITISH PRESTIGE. The ship was towed to Saltend. 3 Mines were exploded off Spurn Point.

LEON MARTIN sunk.

S.S. LEON MARTIN (British 1951 tons) was mined and sunk off Falmouth today. One mine was cut in Fowey Channel. Blyth was closed at 2247, Tyne at 2306 and Tees at 2349.

Mediterranean.

TERROR arrived at Suda Bay this morning for duty as guardship.

ConvoyM.E.3 from Malta, escorted by RAMILLIES, arrived at Alexandria.

Alexandria was twice attacked p.m. today by enemy aircraft, causing slight damage to the shore base. DECOY was hit by a bomb at 1730 and was damaged. Two Blenheims today bombed Valona harbour, destroying a jetty and sinking a barge.
Blenheim aircraft successfully attacked shipping at Benghasi and the barracks at Derna, Bardia, and Sidi Barrani, and co-operated with APHIS in a bombardment of Maktila, east of Sidi Barrani.

/ Wellingtons ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Wellingtons last night successfully attacked Bari, causing much damage and setting fire to the oil refinery.

Wellington aircraft last night successfully attacked ~~Bari~~, Durazzo and Valona.

Bad weather prevented a further attack by the F.A.A. on Italian warships in Taranto last night.

East Indies.

PROTECTOR has reported her position and is proceeding to Bombay. SHROPSHIRE is proceeding to Aden and SLAVOL to Colombo. (See 10/11, 11/11).

America and West Indies.

S.S. ANGLO SAXON (5596 tons) which was reported overdue at Bahia Blanca 26/9 is now reported to have been shelled without warning and sunk on 21/8 in 26° 10' N. 34° 9' W. (in mid Atlantic). One boat got away with 7 of the crew, and the 2 survivors are said to have drifted ashore on 30/10 at Eleuthera in the Bahamas.

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

DELUGE. At 1130/13. (D.C. 1202/13) At 2300/13 (D.C. 2333/13)

Campbeltown Defences) (R.A.N.A.S. 1532/13 to Adty.)

Plymouth A/A Defences.) My 0056/8 and my 0102/2 reporting mines dropped in the Hamoaze. There is evidence that isolated enemy Aircraft, probably flown by some very daring pilots, fly down the Lyne or Tamar River and then drop mines in the Hamoaze at night.
2. To Counter this menace, and after discussion with the Balloon Barrage Commander, very early approval is requested to instal as an immediate temporary measure 3 V.L.A'S in the following position.

1 In Centurion
1 In Oiler at No. 9A Buoy
1 On Shore at Bull Point
3. Some balloons are available at No. 13 Centre at present held as spares for the Tor Point Ferry V.L.A'S and it is understood that winches are available from Naval sources. These can be installed using local resources.
(C.in C. W.A. 1704/13 to Adty.)

Greenock Area. A/C Decoy. Your 1923/8. Request ~~atlr~~ Air Ministry may be prepared to discuss also following possible alternative position for Glasgow.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1840/13 to Adty.)

Movements.

FOLKESTONE Expect arrive 53° 48' N. 5° 8' W. at 1300/13.
(FOLKESTONE 1915/12 to C.in C. W.A.)
(C. in C. W.A. 0053/13).

Nore. Dispositions for Night 13/14. (C.in C. Nore 0800/13).

REVENGE. (To cover O.B. 239, 240, 241). Your 1145/11, para. 2. In view of delay in sailing REVENGE, intend to detach Destroyers 24 hours later. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1042/13 to C.in C. W.A.).
Sailed REVENGE, OTTAWA, ST. LAURENT, GARLAND routed as by C.in C. W.A. 1145/11 to R/V with HIGHLANDER and LEOPOLDVILLE as by F.O. Liverpool 1937/12. (F.O. Greenock 1115/13 to C.in C. W.A.)

VAILLANT } VIKINGS } Your 1747/12. Both Ships ready to sail probably 21/11. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1108/13 to Adty.)

LONDONDERRY. My 0750. ETA. at 20 C. Buoy 1230/13
(LONDONDERRY 1119/13 to C.in C. Rosyth)

/ SOUTHDOWN .....

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (Continued)

SOUTHDOWN	Adty. 2155/24/10. Intend sail for Scapa 1700/13, calling Holyhead 1800/14 to disembark passengers. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1133/13 to C.in C. H.F.)
Dover.	Patrols for Night 13/14. (V.A. Dover 1212/13).
AUSTRALIA	To leave Convoy at 2000/13 and proceed to Clyde. (A.C.N.S. H. 1232/13 to AUSTRALIA)
PEONY.	My 1334/4 and your 1837/12. Delay in departure of L.L. Corvettes must be accepted. They should be sailed for Gibraltar on 16/11. (A.C.N.S. H. 1233/13 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).
Western Channel.	Night Report (C.in C. W.A. 1531/13).
Orkneys.	Positions at 2000/13. (A.C.O.S. 1540/13).
Rosyth.	Movements for Night 13/14. (C.in C. Rosyth 1614/13).
Escort for W.S. 4B.	Owing to delay in sailing REVENGE and LEOPOLDVILLE, their Destroyer Escort may not be available to escort W.S.4B on 17/11. Propose sailing 4 Destroyers of 5th D.F. to Liverpool on 15/11 to take their place. (C.in C. W.A. 2037/13 to Adty.)
SALADIN CLARKIA	SARDONYX 1230/13. Intended to sail SALADIN and CLARKIA in lieu of SARDONYX and MALCOLM at 2100 to-day for 054° 00' North 018° 00' West. Speed of advance 13 knots. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1750/13 to C.in C. W.A.)

Operations.

Jan Mayen Island.	COSSACK leaves Scapa 0130/13 to comply with Admiralty 2117/12. COSSACK remains Jan Mayen Island to limit of endurance assuming oil available Faroes. Request details of vessel quoted in Admiralty 1735/5 may be passed to COSSACK. (F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 0039/13 to Adty.) Decypher Admiralty's 2117/12. NAIAD is to proceed to Jan Mayen Island and carry out operation using Trawlers as necessary. REPULSE is to move north eastward to 066° North to cover NAIAD. Flag Officer Iceland inform Trawlers. After operation NAIAD take up Denmark Straits patrol and REPULSE resume Faeroes Iceland patrol. (C.in C. H.F. 1013/13 to C.S.15).

/ My 1013. .....

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations (Continued)

My 1013. Please recall COSSACK.
(C.in C. H.F. 1211/13 to F.O.C. 1st B.C.S.)

F.O.C. 1st B.C.S. 0039/13.

Latest information suggest that vessel is a small Norwegian Sealer BUSKO of 160 tons made of wood 105 ft. long with a raised poop including bridge and funnel.
One Mast forward, and ship has a rounded appearance.

British Trawlers you may expect to meet are ELM and WISTARIA.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1324/13 to C.S.15 and COSSACK).

Dover shelled. — Between 1430 and 1704, Enemy Coastal Batteries fired about 14 rounds which fell near the new Heavy Gun Emplacements near St. Margarets. (V.A. Dover 1919/13 to Adty.)

Special Service Brigade. — To shorten Rail transport, Troops will now embark in ST. HELIER, MALINES, ANTWERP as follows. Troops will be on board about 10 days. (D.O.D. H. 1327/13 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff).

FURIOUS)
DIDO)
CAIRO)
SOUTHAMPTON) — C.in C. W.A. 1217/10. Cancel paras. A. to G. and substitute following two positions. R/V with SOUTHAMPTON and CAIRO from Belfast in 270° Chicken Rock 8 miles at 1700/15. Route thence. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1738/13 to N.O.I.C. Belfast)
Request Fighter protection. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1838/13 to C.in C. W.A.)
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2008/14 to H.Q.F.C.)

ADMIRAL SCHEER. — Your 1234/12 Ref. A.M.1151/12 Master of CETUS (Nor.) ex H.X. 84 reports:-
Position in convoy pendants 32
Position at time of attack 52° 33' N. 32° 00' W. At 1715 zone time weather fine and clear.
Enemy first seen 6 - 8 miles on port beam steering in opposite direction appeared to be a pocket battleship. Grey paint. Tower mast. Funnels similar to British cruiser completing at North Shields last month.
JERVIS BAY ordered emergency turn away but turned towards the enemy herself.
Enemy turned towards convoy and JERVIS BAY continued until hit on bridge and poop.
Convoy dropped smoke floats and CETUS turned westerly and then north east.

/ At 2315 .....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (Continued)

At 2315 enemy fired star shell towards the north but these exploded astern of CETUS.
During previous forenoon CETUS thinks JERVIS BAY sent one of convoy with red band on funnel to the North eastward and that she returned. Also thinks another ship from the convoy went to north eastward soon after this and did not return thinks only one ship made the attack. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1645/13 tc F.O. Greenock).

Your 1151/12. Sergeant J. Bowie R.M. gunlayer in S.S. SOVAC of convoy H.X.84 reports that he observed enemy ship attacking and is positive that she had 2 funnels. Larger forward and close to bridge and foremast and the smaller some distance and thinner and shorter, he is also quite sure that attacking vessel was of considerable size and gave the impression of a battleship. He was unable to ascertain other details but on inspection of silhouettes is very strongly of opinion that she was a vessel of Courbet French Battleship class. Sergeant Bowie gives the impression of being a responsible individual whose evidence should be reliable.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1831/13 to Adty.)

Iceland. — Your 1209/7. Regret that Iceland D/F cannot be re-opened until Spring as ice and snow make operating impossible. Owing to high latitude, D/F bearings have been of no value. (V.C.N.S.2101/13 to C.in C. H.F.).

Patrol O. — Cancel Patrol tonight. (C.in C. Nore 1301/13).

Submarines.

Positions. — For following 24 hours at 0800/14. (V.A.S. 1704/13).

British Air Activity.

R/C of Norwegian Coast. — Your 2019/12. Request an early Air R/C of Norwegian Coast to ascertain what Enemy Units are near Trondheim. (C.in C. H.F. 1926/13 to Adty.)

Bombing of Coastal Batteries. — My 1026/10. Request bombing may take place from 0445 to 0615/14. (C.in C. Nore 1130/13 to Adty.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

EMPIRE WIND. (British, 4900 tons) Bombed in 53° 48' N. 15° 55' W. (Lands End Radio 0852/13) Position 53° 48' N. 15° 52' W. (Valentia Radio 0910/13) Sinking (Valentia Radio 1001/13) Detach one Ship to assist.
(C.in C. W.A. 1020/13 to ARROW) Proceed to assist with all despatch. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1049/13 to Tug MARAUDER) Sailed MARAUDER (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1145/13 to C.in C. W.A.).

ANVERS. (Belgian 4398 tons) Convoy W.N.35 attacked in 57° 43' N. 1° 49' W. One Ship sunk (CURACOA 1851/13 to C.in C. Rosyth) N.O.I.C. Peterhead reports ANVERS sunk by A/C 4 to 5 miles N.E. of Rattray Head at 1754/13. Survivors believed whole crew picked up by other Ships of Convoy (C.in C. Rosyth 0147/14 to Adty.)

Dover. At about 1400/13, A/C dropped 3 Bombs in Town. One did not explode.
6 civilians killed and some injured.
(V.A. Dover 1919/13 to Adty.)

Mining.

Dover. No routine sweeps to noon/13 owing to weather. QZX 22° swept to westward of channel in bad weather by 4 Oropesa trawlers. 2 mines and 2 cutters found positions doubtful, no area cleared.
(V.A. Dover 1248/13)

ARISTOCRAT. Admiralty 1858/12. Request ARISTOCRAT be sailed Sheerness for anti-minelaying duties in Thames Estuary as requested in my 2152/5. (C.in C. Nore, 1410/13 to Admiralty).

M.D. Ships precautions. Reference C.A.F.O. 1819/40. As M.D. ships are fitted with heavy diesel generators they may be in particular danger from acoustic mines when operating 'LL'.
Ships should remain at their fitting out ports until further orders and their forepeaks should be examined with a view to eventual fitting of acoustic sweeps.
(D.M.S. 1613/13 to C.in C. Nore).

/ LEON MARTIN .....

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Continued)

LEON MARTIN (British, 1951 tons). Mined and sunk, 202° at St. Anthony light 5.2 cables. Apparently 2 acoustic mines. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1641/13 to Admiralty).

Humber. At 1150 L.L. Trawlers two mines exploded 138 degrees Spurn Point Lighthouse two miles. First mine red exploded midway between the sweeps second mine exploded ten seconds later. At 1435 LL Trawlers exploded a red mine 130 degrees Spurn Point Lighthouse miles.
ICARUS about one mile distant. Explosion different to usual. White or grey smoke lying on water with a peak of water about 200 feet at one end of smoke.
(F.O. Humber 1825/13 to Admiralty).
Mine exploded at 0944/13 60 ft. one point abaft beam of Tanker BIRITISH PRESTIGE, 7106 tons which had just passed Humber Gate inwards. (F.O. Humber, 1925/13 to Admiralty)

Plymouth. Cancel my 1850/7. Port is open between 0930 and sunset. Ships should arrive at 180° Rame Head Chapel 2.2 miles at 0930 or 1630. Wreck of KINGSTON ALALITE lies in approximate position 242° Breakwater Fort 5.7 cables. (C.in C. W.A. 2020/13).

Falmouth. Cut 1 mine in Fowey Channel 50° 7' 34" N., 4° 52' 18" W. Mine sunk by rifle fire. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 2103/13 to Admiralty).

Rosyth. Port is closed from West Gate Inchkeith to 02° 52' W. (C.in C. Rosyth, 2155/13).

Blyth. Port is closed, A/C minelaying. Expect re-open 1400/14. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 2247/13).

Tyne. Port is closed, suspected minelaying. Expect re-open 1100/4. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2306/13).

Tees. Port is closed, suspected minelaying. Vessels for Tees may enter Hartlepool. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2349/13).

ARISTOCRAT. Now that MONAS ISLE has arrived at Methil, ARISTOCRAFT to be sailed for Humber for Anti-Minelaying duties (C.in C. Rosyth 1548/13 to N.O.I.C. Methil).

MOST SECRET.

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CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

ARDMORE. (Cork Steam Packet) Due Fishguard 1500/12. Overdue and cannot be traced. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1245/13 to Adty.)

CANTICK HEAD. Still ashore in Inganess Bay. Master refused assistance of 2 Tugs. (N.O.I.C. Kirkwall 1245/13 to Adty.)
Attempt to re-float today failed. (N.O.I.C. Kirkwall 2100/14 to Adty.)

CAPE ST. ANDREW. (See Casualties 11/11) My 1805. Ship reported in 55° 17' N. 11° 19' W. at 1030 today and drifting south at 1 knot. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1256/13 to SUPERMAN, SALVONIA).

Convoy H.X.84.
MORSKAWOLA (Polish, 3376 tons) Not yet arrived (N.C.S.O. Belfast 1817/13 to Adty.)

BEAVERFORD (British, 10,042 tons). Sunk by Raider 5/11. (D.S. 435).

TREWELLARD. (British, 5201 tons) Missing. (D.S. 435).

FRESNO CITY. (British, 4955 tons) Missing. (D.S. 435).

KENBANE HEAD. (British, 5225 tons) Missing. (D.S. 435).

MAIDAN. (British, 7908 tons) Missing. (D.S. 435).

SAN DEMETRIO. (British Tanker, 8073 tons) Proceed forthwith to assist in 53° 46' N. 0° W. at 2030 today. Sheltering at Clare Island, Clew Bay, and should if possible be towed to Clyde. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2145/13 to Tug SUPERMAN)
Reported anchored 7 miles South of Achill Head at 1745/13. (C.in C. W.A. 2250/13 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Following received from ARROW begins: Am standing by damaged SAN DEMETRIO under Achill Head. She will be seaworthy by 1300/14 and I will escort her to Clyde. SUPERMAN with me. SAN DEMETRIO has only 15 of her complement left. Have sent Steam and Repair parties T.O.O. 1221 14th Ends. Join her.
(C.in C. W.A. 1715/14 to HELIOTROPE).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys.

F.N.32. Ships from Tyne area 1½ hours late and overtaking you. (C.in C. Rosyth, 1229/13 to LONDONDERRY, VIVIEN).

W.N.36. 000° Cape Wrath 5 miles at 0850. GLEANER in company. (A.C.O.S. 1115/13).

W.N.37. Sailed W.N.37(0) 0815/13, escort FOXTROT. (N.C.S.O. Oban 1129/13) (N.C.S.O. Greenock, 0938/13).

S.L.53. Meet. (C.in C. W.A. to ARROW, CROCUS, HEARTSEASE, etc. 1317/13).

O.B.246. Admty. 1827/9. Revised date of sailing. (D.T.D., 2227/13)

W.N. 35. Am in company with 4 ships of W.N.35 and WOLVES off Dunnet Head. Air escort reports main body 23 miles astern. My D.G. out of action. (GLEANER, 1546/13, to C.in C. Rosyth).

O.B. 240. Route to avoid S.L. 53. (C.in C. W.A. to ARROW, etc., 1243/13).

O.B. 244. Route. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1127/13).

O.B. 243. Sailed. Escort ACTIVE. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1202/13).

S.L.55. Route. (D.T.D. to MORETON BAY, 1600/13) (D.T.D. to C.in C. W.A. 1837/13 amended 1744/14).

H.X.82. 30 hours late at R.V. Convoy hove to in gale in 52° W. EMPIRE BISON unmanageable in heavy sea straggled and was torpedoed and sunk at 0415/1. RUTLAND straggled only ship not reported. (D.T.D. 1835/13 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

H.X.83. 7 hours late at R.V. S.W. gale for 40 hours. SCOTTISH MAIDEN torpedoed and sunk in convoy at 0230/5. Cdre. reports many ships showed bright stern lights. (D.T.D., 1836/13).

H.X.90. Route. (D.T.D. to C.O.A.C. Halifax etc., 1842/13)

S.C.12. Draft sailing telegram. Escort LEITH. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 1628/13).

Unescorted Sailings. My 1107/11 and 1531/11 (intended sailings). Intend sailing at 1800/13. E.T.A. QZS 180, 0900/14, escorted by HUDDERSFIELD TOWN. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth, 1043/13) Cancel my 1043/13. Sailed at 1801/13 (list) (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 1821/13) (C.in C. W.A. 1835/13).

/ H.X. 84. ....

MOST SECRET.

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Convoys (contd.)

H.X.84. (raider attack 5/11).

Admty. 1151/12. Captains of BRIARWOOD, CASTILLIAN, ERODONA and possibly others not yet interviewed are being sent to London 14/11. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1140/13 to Admty.) Continue to report all information of survivors from H.X.84 which bears on identity of raider, tactics employed, and the position in which survivors were rescued. (D.O.D.(H) to R.A.3 and N.O.I.C's, 1934/13).
At 1200/13, 26 ships of convoy H.X.84 had reached port in safety (D.S. 435) Ships missing, see Casualties.

Admty. 1151/12. Report from Master of CETUS, Norwegian, ex-H.X.84. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1645/13). Polish MORSKAWOLA not yet arrived from H.X.84 (N.C.S.O. Belfast 1817/13)

E.N., W.N., Routes.

C.in C. W.A. 2029/7/11. Propose the following instructions for routing E.N. and W.N. (1) E.N. to arrive off Rattray Head between 1200 and 1400 thence to proceed into Moray Firth on a course Approx. 273 degrees altering to Northward not earlier than one hour after sunset in order to make the tide in Pentland Firth during the following day. (2) W.N. to make the passage of Pentland Firth in the last of daylight whenever the tide permits. (3) Cancel my 1203/10/11. (C.in C. Rosyth, 2357/13).
Concur in Your 2357/13. Re para. (2) it is important that W.N. Convoys make the passage of Pentland Firth before it is necessary to ask for shore lights.
(A.C.O.S. 1225/14, to C.in C. Rosyth).

Troop Convoys.

LEOPOLDVILLE.

My 1937/12. LEOPOLDVILLE and HIGHLANDER sailed and will be half an hour late at R.V. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1130/13 to Admty. etc.) Your 1145/11, para. 2. In view of delay in sailing, REVENGE intends to detach destroyers 24 hours later. (F.O. Greenock, 1042/13 to C.in C. W.A.).

W.S.4B. EDINBURGH

My 1343/1. Following is new position (D.S.T. no T.O.O./13 to F.O.I.C's, Liverpool, Greenock, Glasgow). Latest position (D.S.T., 2138/13 to F.O.I.C's, as above).
Admty. 2114/11 and 2121/11. EDINBURGH firings. Do not consider she is efficient for the duty laid on her. Suggest AUSTRALIA be used, and if the sailing of this convoy on 17/11 is not vitally important that it should be escorted by RODNEY as well. (C.in C. H.F. 2325/13 to Admty.)

Navicerts, Vichy French Ports.

On 18/11, compulsory for ships sailing from or to Madagascar and Reunion to have ship navicerts. Instructions. (D.E.W.D., 2057/13).

/ Ditto ....

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13.11.1940.
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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Navicerts, Vichy French Ports. Ditto for French W. Africa, Liberia and Portuguese Guinea. (D.E.W.D., 2059/13 Syria included in Navicert area on 18/11. Instructions. Above does not apply to French ships which are to be sent in unless sailing under special arrangements. (D.E.W.D., 2100/13).

Operations Against Vichy French.

CANADA. Intend sailing French Hospital ship CANADA for Gibraltar 1200/14 routed in accordance with Admiralty's 1913/28/10. Speed 11 knots. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1230/13 to Admiralty).

Dakar, French S/M's. Following has been received. Begins. C.S.1. repeated Admiralty C.in C. S.A. from Liaison Officer French Sloop SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA letter dated 19/10 from Admiral Landriau referring to possible second attack on Dakar states that only S/M's equipped are the French S/M BEVEZIERS and 4 small S/M's in bad repair. Ends. (C.S.1., 1634/13 to Admiralty).

INDOCHINOIS, requisitioning A.M.1104/29/10 paras. (c) and (d) INDO-CHINOIS urgently required in U.K. as a transport. Ministry of Shipping making arrangements through local agents to sail her as soon as possible.
Master and Crew should be given opportunity of serving in the ship under conditions laid down in Tel. No. 636 to Governor, Sierra Leone. Any deficiency should be made up, if possible, out of volunteers from French sailors ex CUBA or even British naval ratings. Report urgently if crew cannot be provided.
Presume you will consider possibility of an attempt by French to recover the ship and route her accordingly.
Provision of escort and armed guard is at your discretion.
Your 1706/6 and 2025/11. Possibility of diverting a neutral ship to Freetown is being explored. (Head of M.1039/13 to C.in C. S.A.).

Shipping Dakar. My 2237/11 and 1635/13 following from Governor Gold Coast Warship A 56 or A 66 left Lome A.M. 13 for Kotonu. Movements believed to be as follows:- arrives Kotonu 13 pick up S.S. F.DREY. Returns home and leaves there 14 or 15 with S.S. CARIMARY and S.S. EDREY. Destination believed France via Dakar Casablanca. Also S.S. LOUIS L.D. if Lome in and day to load produce for France. (C.in C. S.A. 2315/13 to 1 C.S.)

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Corvettes. Your 1334/4. Request confirmation that all four corvettes are fitted with A/S and any information on their ability to maintain speed in adverse weather. (S.O. Force H, 1435/13 to Admiralty).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Your 0846/12 and A.T. 1525/12. Intended ROYAL SOVEREIGN should proceed to Halifax for convoy escort duties if results of examination referred to in 1525/12 are satisfactory. (D.O.D. (F), 1636/13 to S.O. Force H).

Patrols. Air Patrols (200 Group, 1715/13 to Air Ministry).

South Atlantic.

CORNWALL. Intend to steer 120° from position 10.41 N., 18.00 W., passing inshore of MORETON BAY. (CORNWALL, 0830 N/13, to C.in C. S.A.).

Duala. Extract of message from British Vice Consul Fernando Po 4/11 delayed in transit. Begins. Reported on good authority Madrid has requested local authorities to cease all contact with Duala on ground that Spain does not recognise Free French Government. Ends. He also states more armaments arrived Fernando Po 23/10, details not known. (N.S.O.(I) Freetown 1411/13 to Admiralty).

Air Reconnaissance. G.O.C. West Africa reports Air Pilot at 0730/13 sighted vessel believed Cruiser apparently at anchor 2 or 3 miles S. of Kutomu Pier. ? British vessel believed sloop approaching Kutonu from S.W. May be vessels mentioned in my 2237/11 but no direct indication. (C.in C. S.A. 1635 N/13 to F.O.C. 1st Cruiser Squadron)

NEPTUNE
DEVONSHIRE. Admiralty's 2334/12 and my 1145/11. My flag will be transferred to NEPTUNE p.m./15 DEVONSHIRE ready for sea a.m./16. Intend sail for patrol in NEPTUNE to relieve DELHI p.m./16. DELHI return to Lagos, as NEPTUNE cannot oil at Lagos until DEVONSHIRE sails can early information of latter's movements be given. (F.O.C. 1st Cruiser Squadron 1801 N/13 to Admiralty).

SOIKA
SARNA
SOTRA
SVANA SOIKA SARNA SOTRA SVANA sail Freetown 14/11 for St.Helena to fuel thence to Walvis Bay and Simonstown. E.T.A. Walvis Bay LARISTAN accompanying as far as St. Helena and then returns to Freetown. Following required at Simonstown. (C.in C. S.A., 2025 N/13 amended 0925/14).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Taranto Attack night of 11-12/11.

Should like to issue communique about most successful attack on Italian Fleet at Taranto, but will not do so until you give all clear for fear of compromising your further operations. Is there any objection to mentioning that torpedo aircraft were used? (1 S.L. to C.in C. Med., 0036/13).
Your 2345/12. Were 2 or 3 battleships sunk. Prime Minister making statement at noon today. (1 S.L. to V.A. Malta, 1038/13). Your 1037. From incomplete photographic survey - one LITTORIO class battleship badly damaged but not sunk, one CAVOUR class battleship beached to avoid sinking and now half under water, one second CAVOUR class battleship apparently damaged and believed beached (V.A. Malta, 1125/13 to Admty.)
Your 2031/12 and 2345/12.
Impossible to get a clear picture of the situation from these signals.
If there were 6 battleships present as stated in your 1539/12 call them LITTORIO A and B and CAVOUR C, D, E and F and state if known -
(1) Exactly where they were originally berthed, giving bearings and distances.
(2) Where they now are giving bearings and distances.
(3) Condition of damaged ships.
Is it certain that the list on various ships actually exists or may it be due to effect of oblique photographs.
(1 S.L. 1213/13 to V.A. Malta).

Taranto Attack (continued)

Your 1213/13. My signals were primarily intended for C.in C. Med. and V.A. (A) for operational purposes. They were urgent and were therefore condensed but they should have enabled these authorities to visualise the situation observing both had enlarged photographs of Taranto Harbour showing normal berths and had been kept fully informed of all reconnaissance.
(ii) Your 1037/13. No mention was made in my 2345/12 of any ship being sunk. The signal said that stern only was visible on photograph and by measuring length of the ship and plotting it on a chart from position of the photographed stern it places the bows which were off the photograph in four fathoms of water and it was therefore assumed that the ship had been beached, i.e. run ashore.

/ (iii) ....

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Taranto Attack (continued)

(iii) Your 1213/13. Condition of the ships were as fully reported as possible. A further reconnaissance will be made when weather is suitable and aircraft are available. The actual damage is naturally not known as it appears to be all under water and cannot be seen from vertical photographs.
The forecastle of the damaged Italian Battleship LITTORIO Class may not be down but ship appears definitely well down by head and large auxiliaries were on both sides of the bow plus numerous smallcraft.
(iv) The list of the Littorio Class battleships and of one cruiser may be due to oblique photography. The two cruisers and damaged battleships are surrounded by heavy oil patches which is not the case with any other ships in harbour. The definitely listed cruiser had a tug on stern apparently towing her towards dockyard.
(v) Positions of Battleships the day before the attack. (Details).
(vi) Positions on 12/11. (Details).
Ships B, C and F are the damaged ones. F is Cavour class ship half under water. Positions in case of B, C and F photographs of sterns the position of B is approximate only as it was photographed through a gap in clud and no land shows. The photographic aircraft had difficult conditions and was attacked by enemy fighters and taking of photographs was a very creditable piece of work.
(V.A. Malta 2035/13 to Admty.)

Credit to F.A.A.

Admty. 0036/13. Part one of my 1121/13. Consider that full credit to the F.A.A. and such publicity as be desirable should be given to this very gallant exploit and it is hoped that it will not be forgotten that this pronounced success is largely due to the inspiring leadership of R.A. Lyster and the commanding officers of EAGLE and ILLUSTRIOUS. No objection to mentioning torpedo aircraft.
V.A. Malta reports that examination of photographs taken A.M./12 appear to show one CAVOUR Class beached with Y turret under water and a heavy list to starboard One Italian Battleship LITTORIO down by bows with forecastle awash and heavy list to starboard. Another CAVOUR may be beached close to entrance to Mar Piccolo. Two cruisers and other light craft and auxiliaries also damaged in inner harbour.
Unfortunately weather prevented the repetition of the operation night 12/13th
Suggested communique follows as part two.
(C.in C. Med., 0951/13).

/Press Communique

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Press Communique. Proposed communique: (begins)
During course of extended operation by Eastern Mediterranean Fleet in Central Mediterranean and Ionian Sea, F.A.A. aircraft of EAGLE and ILLUSTRIOUS attacked Italian Fleet in Taranto Harbour on night 11-12/11.
The attack was carried out by moonlight in face of strong A.A. defence which included an elaborate system of balloon balloon barrage. Notwithstanding these hazards and difficulties hits with torpedoes were scored on two enemy battleships and probable a third anchored in outer harbour, while damage was inflicted by bomb on smaller warship and auxiliary in inner harbour. Two of our aircraft failed to return.
Subsequent reconnaissance has shown one battleship of Littorio Class and one of Cavour Class to be heavily damaged and another of the latter class may also have been hit.
Timely and accurate reconnaissance carried out by aircraft of R.A.F. greatly contributed to the success of this operation.
Concurrently with air attack on Taranto a raid into Straits of Otranto was carried out by a force of cruisers and destroyers under the command of V.A.L.F. This force when west of Valona encountered a convoy of four Italian store ships escorted by two destroyers. One ship was sunk at once, two were set heavily on fire and were almost certainly destroyed while fourth was damaged but managed to escape. Disabled escorting destroyer fled at once under cover of smoke screen but one was damaged by gunfire. There was no damage or casualty to our ships. (Ends).
Further information for communique dealing with enemy air activity (corrupt group) briefly follows on arrival of bombers.
(C.in C. Med., 1121/13).

Air Report. Night 11/12 November. Swordfish 813 and 824 Squadrons F.A.A. despatched to attack ships at Marakeb Island reported by 113 Squadron were unable to locate target and returned to base. 12/11.
2 Hurricanes 33 Squadron despatched to attack concentration of 26 enemy aircraft at Sidi Barrani reported by 113 Squadron previous day, found aircraft had departed and attacked enemy camp damaging M.T. and tents. Night 12/13 1900 and 2020 hours. Enemy aircraft dropped 17 bombs on Alexandria. 2 warehouses at Ras el Tin slightly damaged. No casualties.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1211/13).

Alexandria Raid.

Air raid ...

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATION.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Air raid (a) 1730 to 1750. 2 planes at dusk 8 bombs 27 killed 10 were children 22 injured all Egyptians. Raid (b)1900 to 2040 about 3 planes and about 10 bombs five Egyptians killed. Slight damage to two transit sheds.
(R.A.i/c Alexandria 2230/13).

Valona Attacks, 10/11, 12/11, Durazzo Attack, 12/11.

Greece. 10/11. 1230 hours. 3 Blenheims 84 Squadron bombed Valona hitting buildings round old aerodrome and starting fires among petrol dumps and at naval base. Night 11/12 November 4 Wellingtons 70 Squadron operating from Tatoi bombed Durazzo completely burning out fuel depot and starting 3 fires on jetty which later merged into 1 large blaze. Fire from fuel depot still visible two hours later to aircraft at distance of 100 miles. On outward journey Wellingtons sighted 2 ships in flames 15 miles out to sea off Valona. Understood that ships were set on fire by our naval forces operating in that area but confirmation of this is awaited.
2 Wellingtons 70 Squadron also attacked Valona exploding ammunition dump in docks.
1 Wellington landed at Eleusis on return journey owing to broken petrol pipes.
Day 12/11. 1 Blenheim 84 Squadron photographed Durazzo and road to Tirana for distance 4 miles. 1 cruiser 10,000 tons and 12 merchant ships in harbour.
3 Blenheims bombed Durazzo, bombs bursting on quayside among cranes and warehouses. Other bombs fell on petrol dumps and power station south west of town, starting fire with column of dense smoke. Accurate A.A. barrages encountered over town and Tirana Road. All aircraft returned safely. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1211/13).

Air Recco.

R.A.F. Reconnaissance night 12-13 sighted no ships at Valona, one passenger ship six miles S.W. of Durazzo which was attacked.
24 large ships sighted at Bari thought to be escort ships may be cruisers.
(N.A. Athens 1331/13 to C.in C. Med.)

Combined Services Report Malta up to 1700 hours 13/11 All times G.M.T.

Air Report, Malta.

1437 to 2004 moonlight patrol Gulf of Taranto by Sunderland 230 Squadron to report enemy naval units leaving harbour. Patrol requested by C. in C. Med. in connection with operations Italian Fleet Taranto. Reported fires seen Taranto in distance - otherwise nil. Reconnaissance Ionian Sea carried out 0525 to 1532.

Reconnaissance .....

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Continued)

Air Report, Malta. (Contd.)	Reconnaissance required by S.O. Force H. Elmas Aerodrome. Alghero Elmas seaplane base. Island of Caprera.
S/M's Caprera	Sighted six submarines and 1 destroyer in creek, south east of Island at 41° 11' N. 09° 26' E. No enemy air activity over Malta today. No naval or military items. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1910/13).
Crete, Greek Troop Convoy.	Embarkation of troops from Crete will commence a.m. 17/11, 7 ships from Candia and 5 from Suda Bay, destination Salonica, time of sailing not later than 1700. Escort may be given by 6 and 4 destroyers respectively. 2 Sections of Convoy joins a.m./18. Requesting air protection, and asking if A/A cruiser could escort. (N.A. Athens to C.in C. Med., 1559/13).
Greek Situation.	Report for D.D.M.I. (M.A. Athens to W.O., 1645/13).
DECOY	Damaged in air raid Alexandria 1730/13 (see 15/11)
Middle East Appreciation	Chiefs of Staff No.26 to C.in C's, Med. and M.E. Summary of appreciation of possibility of enemy advance through Balkans and Syria to Middle East. (1 S.L. to C.in C. Med. and E.I., 1624/13) See Med. Vol.
Landing Operations.	Summary of present proposals for supply of materiel and personnel. (a) Carriers, (b) Craft, (c) Personnel, (d) Accommodation. (Hd. of M., to C.in C. Med., 1936/13). See Med. Vol.
Syria, Navicerts.	Syria will be included in Navicert area on 18/11 after which it will be compulsory for all ships sailing from or to Syria to have ship navicerts. Above does not apply to French ships which are to be sent in unless sailing under special arrangements. (D.E.W.D. to C.in C. Med., etc. 2100/13).
M.N.B.O.O.	Your 1941/9. If the M.N.B.O.O. can be spared from U.K. it can be usefully employed in the Mediterranean. (C.in C. Med., to Admty. 1055/13).

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Navicerts, Madagascar. On 18/11, compulsory for ships sailing from or to Madagascar and Reunion to have ship navicerts. (D.E.W.D. to C.in C.E.I., 2057/13).

NIEUW HOLLAND. D.S.T. 2232/7, and C.in C. E.I. 0756/8. NIEUW HOLLAND sailed Bombay 11/11. Date of arrival Durban and requirements. (P.S.T.O. Bombay, 0800 Z/13 to N.O.I.C. Durban).

CANBERRA
DURBAN
CRICKET
CAPETOWN
WESTRALIA

(i) at sunset 13/11 CANBERRA is to proceed to establish a patrol along latitude 010° 00' South between longitudes 090° East and 085° East. Speed on patrol 12 knots. In absence of further information of raider, at sunset 14/11 CANBERRA is to proceed to Fremantle.
(ii) at sunset 13 DURBAN is to proceed to Nancowry to fuel and escort CRICKET to rendezvous with CAPETOWN.
(iii) CAPETOWN is to sail from Colombo at 1530Z/13 and proceed to rendezvous with DURBAN and CRICKET as arranged by DURBAN.
(iv) WESTRALIA as in my 1028/12
(C.in C. E.I., 1112Z/13).

My 1112/13. Cancel paragraphs two and three and substitute (ii) CAPE TOWN is to sail from Colombo at 1630Z/13 and proceed so as to arrive at Australian port A.M./16. After fuelling from Oiler PEARLEAF she is to escort CRICKET to Colombo. (iii) DURBAN is to proceed so as to arrive Nancowry 16/11 for fuel informing CRICKET and Oiler PEARLEAF of para two above. DURBAN on arrival report to C.in C. E.I., C.in C. China, and CAPETOWN, (a) time DURBAN will be ready to proceed again, (b) whether CRICKET will have steam before CAPETOWN arrives. (C.in C. E.I., 1406Z/13).

WOOLWICH. Your 1434/12. Intend sailing 0900Z/15. (WOOLWICH 1203/13).

OLE JACOBS
AUTOMEDON
} My 1644/10 and 0606/12. Further information concerning distress messages made by these ships from 1347/10 G.M.T. Conclusion that OLE JACOBS, Norwegian tanker, is now in enemy hands. (C.in C. E.I., 1322 Z/13 amplified 1444/13).

PROTECTOR
SHROPSHIRE. My 0744/11. Tug PROTECTOR has reported her position in 016° 12' N. 062° 32' E. at 0800 Z/12. She is proceeding Bombay SHROPSHIRE is proceeding Aden and oiler SLAVOL to Colombo.
(C.in C. E.I., 1324 Z/13).

/ U.S.6,
B.N.8½ .....

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. (Continued)

U.S.6.
B.N.8½.

Convoy U.S.6 transhipped completely at Bombay to Convoy B.N.8½ and sailed Nov. 12th.

America and West Indies.

Italian Contraband.

Intercepted letter.
Good for Italy left New York in U.S. ship SEAFOX now named MORMACKPORT on 25/10 due Buenos Aires about 14/11.
(C.in C. A.W.I., 1503/13).

ANGLO-SAXON, sunk by raider 21/8.

My 1600/6. Names of 2 survivors of S.S. ANGLO-SAXON (in reply to inquiry by D.T.D.) Following is summary mainly from log kept by Chief Officer Denning. Raider believed to be WESER or WEBER which confirmed by Widdicombe attacked ship in position latitude 026° 10' North longitude 034° 09' West 2020/21/8. Shelled without warning range 1 mile with 4 inch gun then closed 3 cables raking deck with machine guns and pompoms. Ship sunk only 1 boat believed got away with 7 of crew. 5 dead by 9/9 survivors drifted ashore Eleuthera 30/10. Widdicombe states master killed while dumping ships papers although log shows found dead in cabin. Comments. Consider confidential books if not dumped were destroyed as ship soon on fire.
(S.O.I., Kingston 1147/13)
Your 1625/9 and my 2313/12 ANGLO SAXON attacked at 2020 ships time 21/8 in 026° 10' N. 034° 09' W. by ship thought to be of Hamburg America Line similar to WESER. Raider not seen until within 1 mile when firing was opened with 4 inch without warning immediately wrecking guns and poop. W/T office smashed before report could be sent. Raider then closed within 3 cables raking bridge and deck with pom-poms and machine guns using tracers. Engine room hit and boiler burst.
Many of crew killed in attempt to reach boats. 2 big life boats badly damaged. Gig with 7 survivors pulled away unseen whilst raider was firing machine guns at 2 life rafts already launched. Evidently intention was to sink without trace. ANGLO SAXON on fire sank stern first and raider disappeared eastwards. Gig remained hove to all night but no wreckage sighted, eventually reached Bahamas. 5 survivors perished on passage. Diary kept by mate records ANGLO SAXON carried only one breaker half filled and suggests that life boats should carry more breakers and food, particularly tinned fruit. (C.in C. A. W. I. 1152/13.).

/ U.S. Ships. ...

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (Continued)

U.S. Ships. C.in C. East Indies' 1344Z/11. Suggest supply of confidential navigational information to U.S. Ships undesirable at present. Should entry of U.S.A. into the war appear probable suggest supply of information to U.S. Ships by N.C.S.Os on all stations as for Allied ships. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1336/13).

Town Destroyers. Expect LANCASTER, MANSFIELD, SHERWOOD, CHESTERFIELD to reach vicinity 052° 40' north 032° 30' west by 0230 Z 15/11 thence being guided by your 1436/12. They have been ordered to proceed Belfast on completion of search in absence of other instructions. (F.O.C. 3rd B.S. 1142/13 to Admiralty).

China.

Shore Defences. Your 0545/11/10. Owing to limited stock of 4.7" and 4" guns available at Indian ports, Colombo and Singapore, no alteration to arrangements in Admty. 1414/7/10 is considered advisable. (D. of L.D. to C.in C. China, 1732/13).

Australia.

U.S.7. STRATHMORE from Sydney for Melbourne for fuel, taken nil, remaining 1860 tons. (A.C.N.B., 0214 Z/13, to D. of S.T.)

New Zealand.

TURAKINA wreckage My 0835Z/20/8. Wreckage worked up West Coast, North Island, New Zealand, little doubt that of TURAKINA (N.Z.N.B., 0229Z/13) (TURAKINA reported attack by raider 20/8).

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

TRAPANI) SPEZIA)	Reported to be used for regular services between Barcelona and Genoa. (D.D.I.C. 1350/13).
NORDERNEY	Captain of Port Para. has stopped German Ship NORDERNEY receiving more than 250 tons coal and considers ship interned. Brazilian Chief of Naval Staff concurred in above but similar action as yet not taken at other ports. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1735/13).

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1940.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CAPE ST.ANDREW sunk.

CAPE ST. ANDREW, British 5094 tons. SSS position 55° 40' N. 11° 31' W. approx. (Valentia Radio 1931/13) Torpedoed 55° 14' N., 010° 29' W. Am hunting. (HURRICANE, 2030/13 to C.in C. W.A.). Was originally in Convoy O.B.240 became disabled, and was reported to be drifting on 11/11. Sank after being torpedoed, 78 m. W. of Bloody Foreland. 14 of crew missing, the rest having been picked up by tug SALVONIA (D.S. 436).

Submarines Reported.

2050. D.F. Italian U Boat in approximate position between 045° and 047° N., 006° and 007° W. probably homeward bound. (V.A.S. 2117/13 to S/M's on patrol Area B).

2030. 55° 14' N., 10° 29' W. (D.D.I.C. 2205/13 and 2310/13).

1208. 59° N., 19° - 20° W. indefinite position. (D.S. 436).

Estimated U/B dispositions.

No reliable reports have been received.
Italian - 1 in Atlantic N. of 55° N., whereabouts unknown.
No news of any others.
German - 1 some 220 miles S.W. of Fastnet at 1251/12 may be bound northwards.
2 in area 54° to 56° N: 10° to 15° W.
1 in area 55° to 56° N; 15° to 20° W.
1 in area 57° to 59° N: 18° to 22° W.
1 in area 60° to 61° N: about 20° W.
1 in northern North Sea homeward bound. (D.D.I.C. 1206/13).

5-6

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

JAGUAR and JUPITER last night carried out a patrol between Eddystone and 3° W.

H.M.Drifter THE BOYS Lost

H.M.Drifter THE BOYS foundered in violent weather at 0800 today, whilst in tow near South Goodwin buoy.

Enemy Barges

Bomber Command aircraft report having sighted 300 barges stationary without lights off Terschelling at 2300 today.

FAME

An attempt to refloat FAME today failed and it is anticipated that the destroyer suffered further damage.

British Air Activity

Security patrols were extended today to visibility distance of the Norwegian and Danish coasts. A reconnaissance of the coast from Trondheim to Stadlandet and an offensive patrol as far as possible into the Skaggerak were carried out.

Patrols in connection with the search for the ADMIRAL SCHEER were again flown N.W. of the Butt of Lewis to 17° W., and also covering the French Biscay ports.

Specially equipped Whitley aircraft carried out A/S sweeps in the Western Approaches.

Single aircraft attacked Calais, the docks and shipyards at Wilhelmshaven, and docks at Bremerhaven.

Enemy Air Activity

SS FISHPOOL Bombed

SS FISHPOOL in Convoy O.B. 242 was bombed this morning about 250 miles west of Malin Head and was apparently damaged (tugs ordered to be sent 17/11)

/Air Attack.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Air Attack on Dover
SHIPMATES Sunk
LORD HOWE YORKSHIRE LASS CIRRUS Damaged

Dover was bombed this afternoon, when H.M. drifter SHIPMATES was sunk in the Submarine basin, and H.M.Drifters LORD HOWE, YORKSHIRE LASS and M/L CIRRUS were damaged. Some damage was caused to buildings in the dockyard. The enemy aircraft incurred heavy losses from our fighters.

M.L. 120

M.L. 120 on passage to Sheerness had casualties to all her 6 upper deck ratings this afternoon from 2 very low flying M.E. 109's which presented easy targets. M.L. 120's machine gun jammed after firing 2 rounds.

SS ST. CATHERINE

SS ST. CATHERINE (1216 tons) was sunk by torpedo from an enemy aircraft while proceeding from Aberdeen to join Convoy E.N.25 this evening.

SS LILY

(Bombed 12/11) Arrived in the Clyde today.

Mining

Operation B.S. 46

TEVIOT BANK and PLOVER, with ICARUS laid a further line of mines in the East Coast Mine Barrier today.

Enemy Minelaying

Mines were found today in the Thames Estuary, Tyne, Hartlepool, Plymouth.

Minelaying on a heavy scale took place in the Firth of Forth last night. The positions of 13 mines reported falling were noted.

3 mines were exploded off the Humber today and a mine was exploded at 1040 one cable on the port beam of T.H.V. STRATHEARN just inside the Humber boom.

/M/S Trawlers.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining- Contd.

M/S Trawler JEAN EDMUNDS Damaged

M/S Trawler JEAN EDMUNDS provoked a mine this afternoon off Inchkeith and was damaged and beached in Granton Harbour.

M.V.FAIRY

M.V.FAIRY (204 tons) was mined off the Humber this morning and was towed into Grimsby Roads. Salvage is being attempted.

Plymouth is open between 0930 and sunset The Humber was closed at 0341 but was reopened at 0928. The Tyne was opened at 1327, but Blyth is still closed.

Operations Against Vichy French

Port Gentil was occupied by Free French Forces at 0830/14. F.O.I.C.S. considers there is little object in continuing the patrol in the Libreville Port Gentil area after 16/11, but in view of our promises to Gen. de Gaulle it is to he maintained for the present.

The French Hospital Ship CANADA sailed from Liverpool at 1100/14 although her safe conduct does not operate until 17/11. C. in C., Western Approaches has ordered WESTCOTT to intercept and send her to Belfast or Clyde until that date.

A Tangier report states that the French cruiser PRIMAUGUET sailed from Casablanca on the night of 11/11 southbound.

Mediterranean

Mediterranean Fleet

The main part of the Mediterranean Fleet returned to Alexandria a.m. from its week's operations in the Central Mediterranean. MALAYA, BARHAM and AJAX were detached on 12/11 to fuel at Suda Bay. During the week ILLUSTRIOUS lost 3 Swordfish aircraft due to forced landings in sea, but all crews were saved. The operations showed the inestimable value of Suda Bay as a fuelling base. Two unsuccessful attempts to bomb the Fleet were made during the operations. A total of 7 enemy aircraft were shot down.

/URSULA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.11.1940
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

URSULA
UPRIGHT
UTMOST

The submarines URSULA, UPRIGHT and UTMOST have been placed under the orders of C. in C., Mediterranean, in view of the importance of cutting Italian lines of communication to Libya.

There were 2 air raids on Alexandria this evening. No damage resulted. A destroyer was hit by an incendiary bomb, bit no damage is reported (Air Min D.S.) Egyptian SS ZAMZAM (8299 tons) received considerable damage (D.S. 441)

Blenheims last night successfully bombed shipping at Benghazi, barracks at Derna, Bardia and Sidi Barrani.

APHIS last night bombarded Maktila (East of Sidi Barrani) in cooperation with R.A.F.

R.A.F.Attack Taranto

10 Wellingtons from Malta, attacked Taranto last night. 14-500 lbs of G.P. bombs and 1440 lbs incendiaries were dropped in the eastern part of the main dock in the inner harbour. Two very large explosions and fires were caused. 4500 lbs G.P. bombs and 4801bs incendiaries were dropped on the naval oil tanks and destroyer pens starting fires: a stick of 5 bombs was seen to explode along the wall and pens where many destroyers were docked.

America & West Indies

U.S. Destroyers are patrolling off Tampico and in the Florida Straits to shadow German ships if they attempt to escape.

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Rosyth Area. A/P Trawlers for Patrols.

Admty. 1819/25/10 and 1310/26/10 also C.in C. Rosyth's 1559/27/10. Request arrangements be made to replace by A/P Trawlers M/S vessels and A/P vessels which are unable to operate during the winter. To maintain patrols the following additional trawlers are required. Hartlepool 6. Invergordon 3. Leith 2. Dundee 2.
(S.O.A.P. Leith 1040/14 to C.in C. Rosyth).

23rd D.F.

To be transferred to W.A. Command.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1918/14 to C.in C. Portsmouth).

Nore Command Light Vessels.

Your 1704/8. Light Vessels will be withdrawn and replaced by Light Buoys as opportunity offers.
(Hydrographer 1829/14 to C.in C. Nore).

11th M/S Flotilla.

A.M.2302/22/10. Request I may be informed when return of 11th M/S Flotilla to Clyde may be expected.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1128/14 to Adty).

Your 1128/14. 11th M.S.F. is the only mine clearance force on the West Coast. It is Intended they shall remain at Milford Haven until a more seaworthy flotilla is available there; this will not be for some months.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1928/14 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

French Ships.

Your 1044/12. Approved.
(D.P.S. 2334/14 to F.O.I.C. Southampton).

Defence of United Kingdom.

R.N. Air Station. Defences.

Your 1725/11. (R.N.A.S. Campbeltown 0050/14 to Adty).

DELUGE.

At 1130/14. (D.C.1135/14).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of United Kingdom.

Scapa Defences.

I observe in Appendix A to War Office letter enclosed with A.L.M. 019767/40 of 6/11 the A.A. heavy guns at present suthorised for Scapa number 64. Present number is 88 and no reduction can be accepted. See my * 1738/3/9 and 1727/24/9. Request appendix be amended accordingly.
(A.C.O.S. 1235/14 to Adty).

Plymouth A/A Defences.

C.in C. W.A. 1704/13. Request you conside: implementing this requirement. Winches are available from Naval sources.
(D. of L.D. 2225/14 to Air Ministry).

Movements.

The Downs.

Eight M.V's, two balloon tugs, one M.L. and DEODAR of C.E.16 are scattered between Ramsgate and Dover proceeding to Southend. M.L.120 is in Dover.
(V.A. Dover 0750/14 to C.in C. Nore).

AUSTRALIA.

My 2121/11, para.2. AUSTRALIA is to be sailed from Clyde as additional Escort for W.S. 4B. (V.C.N.S. 1103/14 to C.in C. W.A.).

ADASTRAL.

My 1821/13. Returned to Dartmouth.
(N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 1107/14 to N.C.S.O. Milford Haven).

CLEVELAND, KINGSTON OLIVINE.

Report your position. (C.in C. Nore 1113/14 to CLEVELAND).

EDINBURGH.

C.in C. H.F. 2351/13. Expected time of arrival 1300/15, passing into W.A. Area at 0030/15. (EDINBURGH 1139/14 to C.in C. W.A.)

Escort for WS.4B.

Your 2037/13. Approved. (V.C.N.S. 1152/14 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (Contd.)

Nore Command.	Movements to 1200/15. (C.in C. Nore 1200/14 to F.O.I.C. Harwich).
GARDENIA.	My noon position 55° 13'N., 10° 40'W. Sinking ship not sighted. (GARDENIA 1202/14 to C.in C. W.A.)
FOWEY.	Sail at 1530/15 and anchor off Methil. Proceed as additional A/A Escort with EN.26 sailing 0800/16 and transfer to WN.39 due Cape Wrath 0130/17 and escort to Methil. (C.in C. Rosyth 1214/14 to FOWEY).
Northern Patrol.	Trawler lines tonight. (A.C.O.S.1542/14).
Dover.	Patrols for Night 14/15. (V.A. Dover 1544/14).
VELOX.	My 1217/10 and 1643/11. Request you detach VELOX from 51° N., 20° W., through 36° 30'N., 10° W. to Gibraltar. Route of VELOX to be modified if fuel necessitates. (C.in C. W.A. 1615/14 to C.S.18).
Nore and Harwich.	Movements Summary. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1730/14 to WIDGEON).
KENYA.	Your 1335/14. KENYA is waiting at Belfast until Plymouth considered safe for her entry as ordered in my 2257/8. (C.in C. W.A. 2021/14 to C.in C. H.F.)
5th D.F.	PRU report shows three and possibly more destroyers in Brest today. Despatch of four of 5th D.F. as approved in your 1152/14 would leave only one or two serviceable destroyers in Plymouth till November 22nd. Request therefore that BATH, ST. ALBANS, ST MARYS may be made available for escort of Convoy W.S.4B. on November 17th in lieu of 5th D.F. (C.in C. W.A. 2049/14 to Adty).
NIGERIA.	Expect ready for service p.m./20. (C.in C. W.A. 2212/14 to Adty).

MOST SECRET.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

FURIOUS
SOUTHAMPTON
Operation "Collar".

C.in C. W.A. 1217/10 and N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1738/13. SOUTHAMPTON cannot be sailed in time to R/V in 54° 45'N., (?) 5° 12'W. at 1940/15. Intend sail CAIRO to R/V in 270 Chicken Rock 8 miles at 1700/15. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 1600/14 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).

Request you sail SOUTHAMPTON to R/V in position H in C.in C. W.A. 1217/10. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2000/14 to N.O.I.C. Belfast).

Dover Shelled.

Between 1622 and 1653 Enemy Coastal Batteries fired about ten rounds which fell near R.M. Siege Battery. No damage or casualties reported. (V.A. Dover 1946/14 to Adty).

ADMIRAL SCHEER.

My 1942/12. Evidence of Board of Enquiry conforms that enemy had one triple turret forward and one aft. Single funnel with cowl similar to RESOLUTION of which class he was first thought to be by many survivors. Foremast with compact bridge structure and some evidence of short mainmast well abaft the funnel. Secondary Armament and Ships.

My 2330/14 part two.
Typical shell hole in JERVIS BAY'S side assessed as 12 inches in diameter.
Enemy sighted steering South altered to West to open A arc and fired triple salvo from single turret fore andaft at high rate of fire presumably giving impression of six - gun salvo referred to in my 1942/12. Very small spread.
Enemy concentrated on JERVIS BAY before molesting convoy and opened fire with time fuze shell high explosives or Shrapnel from secondary armament at the end of action while survivors were abandoning.
(F.O.C.3B.S. 2318/14 to Adty).

Part three final. Complete absence of funnel smoke from enemy was particularly noticed. Survivors rescued in 052° 41' N., 032° 17' W. close to position of sinking. Handling of JERVIS BAY by Captain and conduct of all on board was in accordance with best traditions. Recommendations for immediate awards will follow.
(F.O.C. 3rd. B.S. 2330/14 to Adty).

MOST SECRET.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Submarines.

Greenock Area. — Movements. (F.O.I.C. Greenock.1337/14).

SEAWOLF. — Expected time of arrival. Position W. 0832/15. (SEAWOLF 0600/14 to C.in C. Portsmouth).

Positions. — For following 24 hours at 0800/15. (V.A.S 1707/14).

British Air Activity.

R/C of Norwegian Coast. — C.in C. H.F. 1926/13. Request you arrange this if possible. (Adty. 0135/14 to A.C C.in C. CC).

Nore. — Dawn reconnaissance not carried out. (C.in C. Nore 0725/14).

SA.IA. SA.IE. — Security patrols today are being extended to visibility distance of the Norwegian and Danish Coasts. S A 1(A) is being substituted for S.A.1(E) and also to carry out reconnaissance of coast from Trondheim to Stadlandet. Offensive patrol enter Skagerak as far as possible. (C.in C. Rosyth 0920/14 to C.in C. H.F.)

Report of Airman in Sea. — Whenever Airman reported in sea, F.O or N.O.I.C. concerned is to report by signal to Adty. giving following particulars. (A.C.N.S. H. 1315/14 to C's in C.)

Stavanger. Norwegian Coast. — Three aircraft are carrying out a bombing attack on Stavanger aerodromes tonight.

One Sunderland will carry out a moonlight reconnaissance of Norwegian Coast from the Approaches to Trondheim to 61° 30' N the aircraft not to enter Fjords but keep to sea in visibility distance of coast. Aircraft to take off 2359 and land in daylight. (C.in C. Rosyth 1732/14 to Adty).

Priority of Inland Photographic reconnaissance. — A566 14/11 during alert No.3 or until further orders when weather conditions are favourable for deep penetration the photography of important objectives inland as indicated from time to time is to take priority over daily reconnaissance of invasion ports. (Air Ministry 1545/14 to C.C.)

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

Rosyth.

Air Escort for 15/11. (C.in C. Rosyth 1924/14). The following Patrols will become daily routine until further orders Parallel Track search by 2 Hudsons leaving line Butt of Lewis and 30° Butt of Lewis 30 miles at dawn, for 360 miles on 300°, thence on 80° to 10° W, then to base. (C.in C. Rosyth 2028/14 to C.in C. H.F.).

SA.1A.
SA.2.
SA.3.

Patrol S.A.1 A will be flown instead of S.A.1 E. a.m. tomorrow Friday, taking off at first light and will be extended to Norwegian Coast if cloud cover permits. S.A.2 and S.A.3 also extended to Coast will take off at 1030 tomorrow and will not repeat not be repeated p.m. Two Southern tracks of S.A.2 will be extended to 7 degrees East. Offensive patrol Lister to Horns Reef will be extended into Skaggerak if cover permits and will be flown concurrently with S.A.3.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2242/14 to Adty).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy BOSOM.

One aircraft shadowing in 50° 36'N., 0° 20'W. (FERNIE 0907/14 to Culver W/T).

FISHPOOL.

Bombed in 55° 30'N., 16° 10'W. (Valentia Radio), (1027/14). Detail one Destroyer to assist. (C.in C. W.A. 1157/14 to WANDERER) Proceed to assist (C.in C. W.A. 1431/14 to GARDENIA).

ST. CATHERINE.

Sunk on way to join N.Bound Convoy E.N.25 at 1800/14 in 4 minutes by aerial torpedo 1/4 mile S.of outer buoy swept channel. Survivors of crew 14 out of 28, Master and 2nd Officer lost,3out of 4 passengers saved. Survivors brought in by BERRIEDALE also joining convoy. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1125/14 to C.in C. Rosyth).

Convoy, ARENA.

10 aircraft in 51° 35'N., 1° 10'E. (WOLSEY 1136/14) One aircraft in 51° 30'N 1° 9'E. (VERDUN 1317/14) Enemy disappeared (VERDUN 1320/14).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy ALPHA.	One aircraft shadowing in 57° 17'N., 0° 15'W. (ICARUS 1733/14).
SHIPMATES) LORD HOWE)	(H.M. Drifters). SHIPMATES sunk and LORD HOWE damaged by aircraft bombing in Dover Harbour at about 1415/14. 1 missing, 6 injured. (LYNX 1845/14 to Adty).
YORKSHIRE LASS (Drifter) M/L. CIRRUS.	Damaged by bombs during attack on Dover at 1420/14. No barrage Balloons flying. Some damage to buildings. (V.A. Dover 1946/14 to Adty).
Dover.	At 1420 today 25 J.U 87's escorted by M.E.109's approached Dover from North East at 11,000 feet and dive bombed the Harbour. 60 Rounds were fired by 'B' Battery of the U.P's in two Salvoes of 30, and 30 Rounds by 'A' Battery. At least six Junkers went right through the U.P. Barrage and several Machines subsequently crashed but it is not possible positively to determine the cause as our Fighters were attacking. (V.A. Dover 1947/14 to Adty).

Mining.

Humber.	Closed (F.O. Humber 0341/14). Open (F.O. Humber 0928/14).
S.N.45.	My 1504/13. Completed(RAML 0921/14).
Thames Estuary.	1 Red mine detonaded by L.L. at 1915/13 in 48° knob L.V. 4 cables. (Capt: M/S. 1009/14 to C.in C. Nore).
Tyne.	1 Ground Magnetic Mine detonated L.L. in 70° North Tyne Pier Light 12½ cables at 1225/14. (PMSO South Shields 1308/14 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).
Great Bromley, Essex.	2 mines dropped last night by parachute. One did not explode. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1315/14 to Adty).
Channel.	At 1145, 5 M/V's stationary halfway between Cherbourg and Isle of Wight possibly minelaying. (V.A.S. 1326/14 to UNIQUE).

MOST SECRET.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

WAR DIARY.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Cotd.).

Tyne
Blyth.

Tyne open. Blyth still closed.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1327/14 to LOWESTOFT).

Tyne.

Port Open. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1400/14).

Thames Estuary.

Balloon Drifter in position 51 28' 9" North 0 51' 45" East reports that at 1845/13 a parachute and splash of mine dropping in sea was observed 500 yards S. by W. from this position. In view of depth of water there appears to be a good chance of recovery of mine.
(C.in C. Nore 1411/14 to Adty).

B.S.46.

Completed. Length 7 miles. PLOVER did not lay. (TEVIOT BANK 1446/14 to Adty).

Hartlepool.

One mine exploded spontaneously at 1410/14 in 54° 39' 45" N., 1° 7' 18" W., (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1515/14 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).

Blyth.

My 2247/13. Not now anticipated that Port will be opened till 1400/15.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth 1528/14 to Adty).

FAIRY.

(Motor Vessel 204 tons) Mined 1-1/2 miles E. of Chequer Shoal Buoy at 1110 today. Ship has been towed into Grimsby Roads and salvage is being atempted. Speed 6-1/2 knots. Course S.E. by E. Explosion 10 yards dead astern. Large flame. Three men injured.
(F.O. Humber 1612/14 to C.in C. Nore).

Firth of Forth.

Approximate positions of 11 Mines laid and 4 splashes reported on 13/11 are as follows. (C.in C. Rosyth 1621/14 to Adty).

Acoustic Mines. Precautions.

To safeguard against acoustic mines following precautions are recommended when in mined waters:-
(D.M.S. 1730/14) (Ad.Message Home 952.AZ).

Harwich Area. Search.

Your 1601/14 weather permitting intend

/sailing

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (Contd.)

Harwich Area. Search. (Contd.)	sailing 5 or 6 Fleet Sweepers at 0730 tomorrow to make high percentage search of Area ordered. Request Air protection South Ship Wash at 0830. Thence to 52° 05' North at 1000 and between 52° 5' North 1° 51' East 52° 12' N 1° 59' East from 1000 to 1630, then for return to Harwich.
Humber.	1108 a skid exploded a mine in 262° Spurn Point Lighthouse 1.4 miles. At 1115 and 1125 mines exploded near the Fairey and Robrix in 170 Chequer Shoel Buoy 5 cables and 154° Chequer Shoal Buoy four and a half cables. L.L. trawlers report explosions appeared of magnetic type and that they swept over these positions at 1015. (F.O. Humber 1800/14 to Adty).
Harwich Area.	Weather permitting intend sailing 3 Paddle Minesweepers tomorrow Friday at 0730 to continue clearance to west of 'X'. Request fighter protection from 0830 to 1530 between 51 degs. 50" North, 01 degs. 47" East and 51 degs. 45" North, 1 deg. 41" East. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1911/14 to C.in C. Nore).
Plymouth.	Since my 1848/12 one Mine exploded spontaneously in 160 degs. Breakwater Fort 9 cables at 0557. (C.in C. W.A. 2002/14 to Adty).
Belfast.	D.G. range closed. Suspected minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 2245/14).
Forth of Forth.	Minelaying on a heavy scale has taken place in Firth of Forth tonight 13/14. 13 mines have been reported falling and approximate positions noted. (C.in C. Rosyth 2358/14 to Adty).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

14.11.40.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Lister. D/F bearings at 1012 B.S.T. indicate Enemy. Surface Craft in area off Lister Light. (D.D.I.C. 1124/14 to C.in C. H.F.) (V.A.S. 1149/14 to S/M's Area A).

Bergen. From W.T.I. It is possible that a German Naval Unit may leave Bergen area this evening for the Skaggerak. (D.D.I.C. 1850/14 to C.in C. H.F.)

Admiralty War Diaries —

26-11-40 to 6-2-41, cont

on Reel K-9-B.

ENDING OF

REEL K-8-D

DOCUMENTS - PHOTOGRAPHED

Admiralty War diaries 1-7-41 - to 30-9-41 -	cont'd from Reel K-7-B
Admiralty War Diaries 26-11-40 - to - 6-2-41	cont'd on Reel K-9-B

ONI

DATE: 15 . April . 1946

MACH. NO. 475

PHOTOGRAPHED BY: Jones . Cunningham